

A
Looking-glass
FOR
PERSECUTORS;

CONTAINING
Multitudes of EXAMPLES of
God's Severe, but Righteous
JUDGMENTS, upon bloody and merci-
less Haters of his Children in all Times,
from the beginning of the World to
this present Age.

COLLECTED
Out of the Sacred Scriptures, and
other Ecclesiastical Writers, both
Ancient and Modern.

The Second Edition.
By *Sam. Clarke*, Minister. *K*

*God judgeth the Righteous, and God is angry with the
wicked every Day: If he turn not, he will whet his
Sword: He hath bent his Bow, and made it ready:
He hath also prepared for him the Instruments of
Death: He ordaineth his Arrows against the Per-
secutors, Pſal. 7. 11, 12, 13.*

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View here his Shadowe whose Laborious Quill
 By Sacred Chymistry doth Balm Distill
 To Calm y^e Persecuting Spirite Rage
 And mixe Delight with Profit in each Page

Walter Binneman sculpsit







T O · T H E
Christian Reader.

I *Know well that this is a very tender Subject about which I am now writing. For,*

————— The Ancients made
Divine Revenge to be a Child of
Night,
Shut to the Earth, but ope' to Heavens sight.

There are two sorts of Persons which err about the Judgments of God: The one of such who will not take any notice of them, be they never so plain and conspicuous. Of such the Prophet complains, Esay 26. 11. Lord, when thy

To the Christian Reader.

Hand is lifted up, they will not see: but they shall see. *These are stupid, and blockish Persons: For (saith the Prophet, verse 9.) When thy Judgments are in the Earth, the Inhabitants of the World will (or at least should) learn Righteousness. The other sort are of such as are too Critical, and censorious in judging of God's Providential Dispensations, as if they were punishments for sin, when God hath other excellent ends in them: This was the fault of Christ's Disciples, John 9. 2. When they saw a man that was blind from his Birth: Master (say they) Who did sin? This Man, or his Parents, that he was born blind? To whom our Saviour answered, Neither hath this Man sinned, nor his Parents: But that the Works of God should be made manifest in him.*

But notwithstanding these Errors, both on the Right and Left Hand, there must be an humble, sober, and prudent taking

To the Christian Reader.

taking notice of God's Judgments that we may make a right construction of them. The Apostle St. Paul, having recorded the dreadful Examples of God's wrath upon the sinful Israelites in the Wilderneck (1 Cor. 10. 5. &c.) concludes (verse 11.) Now all these things happened unto them for Examples: And they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the World are come. God himself also hath appointed the recording and observation of such Judgments, That all Israel may hear, and fear, and do no more any such wickedness, Deut. 13. 11.

Obj. But do we not often see, that great and violent Persecutors live long, and prosper in the World, as if they rather merited a reward, than procured God's wrath against them for it?

Ans. It's true. 1. God's Judgments upon many Persecutors are more spiritual, and so less conspicuous, and visible

To the Christian Reader.

to the eye of the World: As when God gives them up to blindness of mind, hardness of heart, a cauterized conscience, and a reprobate sence, which of all other Judgments are the most dreadful, Hos. 4. 17.

2. All the while they escape with impunity, they are but treasuring up wrath against the Day of wrath, and revelation of the righteous Judgment of God, Rom. 2. 5. For it's a righteous thing with God to recompence tribulation to them that trouble and persecute his People, 2 Thes. 1. 6. Hence, Job 31. 3. Is not destruction to the wicked? And a strange punishment to the workers of iniquity? God doth record and register such wicked mens sins against the Day of Judgment. He writes them in a Book with a Pen of Iron, and the Point of a Diamond, Jer. 17. 1. He seals them up in a Bag, Job 14. 17. As a Clerk of the Assizes seals up the Indictments, and at the Assizes opens his Bag,

To the Christian Reader.

Bag, and produceth them, Deut. 32. 34.

Tet God in all Ages hath taken some of these Persecutors, and hung them up in Chains, as Spectacles of his wrath, for a warning unto others. And howsoever such, by reason of God's patience and forbearance, may dream of impunity; yet let them know that Judgments are never nearer than when they are least feared. A great Calm is many times the fore-runner of a Storm, when men cry Peace, Peace, then comes sudden and swift destruction, 1 Thes. 5. 3. When Agag said in his Heart, Surely the bitterness of Death is past; then came Samuel and hewed him in pieces. When the Old World was eating, drinking, buying, building, Persecuting, and snorting in security; then came the Flood, and destroyed them: When men be at ease in Sion, there is a Wo denounced against them, Amos 6. 1. to the 8. When men look at Judgments as a far off, then God will defer no longer, Ezek. 12. 27. 28. When the Philistins

To the Christian Reader.

Philistins met together to be merry and to sport themselves with Sampson, (whose eyes they had put out) he brought the House upon their Heads, and slew them all.

Now God executes Judgments upon some wicked Persecutors; but these are but Præludia futuri Judicii, Tokens and fore-runners of that Great and General Judgment. Some are now punished (saith one) as the Old World, Sodom, Egypt, Jerusalem, &c. that we may know that there is a Providence taking notice of all: Yet all are not punished, that we may know there is a Judgment to come, to which the wicked are reserved, 2 Pet. 2. 10. Here God's way is in the Clouds, we see not the reason of many things, but then his Justice and Righteousness shall be gloriously apparent to all the World, Rev. 2. 5. Here they live longest, many times, that deserve not to live at all, Job 21. 7. The Israelites are oppressed whilst the Egyptians live at ease. Good David is

To the Christian Reader.

in want, and persecuted, whilst wicked Nabal abounds. Sion is oft Captive to Babylon : But there is another Day, and another reckoning , when all shall be set to Rights : When the Righteous shall rejoyce , and the wicked shall mourn, Esay 65. 13, 14. God will not alwayes suffer his Jewels to be trampled in the Dirt under the feet of Pride and Malice ; but he will vindicate the injuries that are now done unto them, Luke 18. 7. Now men curse, but Christ will then receive such, with a Come ye Blessed of my Father, &c. Matth. 25. 34.

O how singularly foolish than are you, that seek to root out , and to rid the Saints out of the World , as the Hea-then Emperors did. These resemble the Stag in the Emblem, that fed upon the Leaves, which hid him from the Hunter. And Sampson-like , by pulling down the Pillars, they bring the House upon their own Heads.

*But I will enlarge no further. If
(through*

To the Christian Reader.

(*through God's Blessing*) *this little Book may prove useful to the deterring of wicked and malevolent spirits from all kinds of Persecution, though but in Words and Gestures , Esay 57. 3, 4. and to the encouraging of the Godly Persecuted , to bear their sufferings meekly,referring their cause wholly unto God,who saith, Vengeance is mine ; I will repay, saith the Lord, Rom. 12. 19. I have mine end,*

Who am

From my Study in
Hammersmith ,
April 14. 1674.

Thy Friend and Ser-

vant to thy Faith

Sam. Clarke.

God's



God's Judgments

U P O N

PERSECUTORS

Recorded in the
Books of the Old Testament.



He first Persecutor and Mur-
therer was the Devil, as our
Saviour Christ testifies,
*John 8. 44. He was a Mur-
therer from the Beginning:*
He murther'd the Souls (the
most Noble and Divine part) of our First
Parents, and in them of all their Posterity,
had not God (of his infinite goodness and
mercy) made a Balsom of the Blood of
Christ, for the healing of that deadly
wound.

wound. See the Devil's punishment for it, *Gen. 3. 15.*

2. The two first men that were born into the World were *Cain* and *Abel*; and long they had not lived together before *Cain*, when they were in the Field together, rose up against his Brother *Abel*, and slew him, *Gen. 4. 8.* And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his Brothers Righteous, *1 John 3. 12.* But the righteous God would not suffer him to go away with impunity. For saith God to him, *Gen. 4. 12.* *When thou tillest the Ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength. A Fugitive and a Vagabond shalt thou be in the Earth;* In which condition he suffered many Thousand Deaths (by reason of his Horrors and terrors of Conscience) before he came to die, as is implied, *verse 14.* *From thy Face shall I be hid, and I shall be a Fugitive and a Vagabond in the Earth, and it shall come to pass that every one that findeth me shall slay me.*

3. Though the Scripture mentions particularly no other Persecution before the Flood, yet *Gen. 6. 11.* It's said, *The Earth was corrupt before God, and the Earth was filled with Violence:* which Violence certainly was chiefly practised by the wicked
Cainites

Cainites against the Church of God: For which Sin (among others) God brought that General Deluge which destroyed them all, Gen. 6. 13. God said unto Noah: *The end of all Flesh is come before me: For the Earth is filled with violence through them: And behold I will destroy them with the Earth.*

4. When the world was reduced to a very small number, yet then had Satan a wicked *Ham* to persecute and mock his godly aged Father; for which he was cursed, and his Posterity doomed to bondage and servitude, Gen. 19. 25, 26, 27. *Cursed be Canaan: A Servant of Servants shall he be to his Brethren, &c.*

5. In holy *Abraham's* Family there was a Persecuting *Ishmael*, as the Apostle *Paul* testifies, Gal. 4. 29. *He that was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the Spirit: But though he was Abraham's Son, God would not suffer this Sin to go unpunished: For, verse 30.—What saith the Scripture? Cast out the Bond-woman and her Son: For the Son of the Bond-woman shall not be Heir with the Son of the Free-woman.* And sure it was no small punishment to be cast out of the Church of God, and not to be suffered to partake of the Blessings

Blessings promised thereunto.

6. When the Church of God, the Children of Israel were in Egypt, they were Persecuted by Pharaoh King of Egypt, and his People, who set over them Taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens, *Exod. 1. 11.* thinking thereby to eat them up and wear them out: And when that prevailed not, *they made them serve with rigor, and they made their Lives bitter with hard Bondage in Mortar, and in Brick, and in all manner of Service in the Field: all the Service wherein they made them serve, was with rigor, verse 13. 14.* And when yet they still multiplied, the King commanded the Midwives, Siphra and Puah, *when they did the Office of a Midwife to the Hebrew women, and saw them upon the Stools, if they were delivered of a Son, they should presently kill him, verse 15. 16.* And when these Midwives neglected his commands, he charged all his People that *every Son that was born to the Israelites, should be cast into the River Nilus, verse 22.*

7. And when God sent Moses into Egypt to deliver his People out of the House of Bondage, Pharaoh raged more against them: He caused Straw to be taken from them, and yet the number of Bricks to be continued;

tinued; and when that task was not done, the Officers of the Children of Israel were cruelly beaten, *Exod. 5. 14.* But the Justice of God slept not all this while: They had shed the Blood of the People of God, and God turned all their Waters into Blood: They had killed all the Males of the *Israelites*, and God's destroying Angel killed all their first-born: They had drowned Multitudes in the River, and *Pharaoh* and his Army were all drowned in the *Red Sea*.

Pœna venit gravior quo magè sera venit.

*Justice though slowly, yet doth surely tread,
And strikes with Iron though she walks with
Lead.*

8. *Saul* the first King of *Israel* was a cruel Persecutor of *David*, and the Priests of the Lord; of whom (upon a false suggestion) he slew fourscore and five Persons that did wear a linnen Ephod; and not satisfied with their Blood, he went to *Nob*, the City of the Priests, and smote it with the Edg of the Sword, both Men and Women, Children and Sucklings, and Oxen, and Asses, and Sheep, *1 Sam. 22. 18, 19.* But see the

end: His Country being invaded by the *Philistins*, he goes to the *Witch of Endor*, where he complained to the Devil in *Samuel's Mantle*, that *God had forsaken him when he was sore distressed by the Philistins, and answered him no more, neither by Prophets, nor by Dreams*, 1 Sam. 28. 15. And a few dayes after, when he had lived to see his Army routed, three of his Sons slain, and himself forely wounded, in despair he fell upon his own Sword, and died, 1 Sam. 31. 1, 2, 3, 4.

9. *Asa* (though a good King) being reprov'd by the Prophet *Hanani*, for relying upon the King of *Syria*, and not upon the Lord his God, *was wrath with him, and put him in Prison, and oppress'd some of the People at the same time*, 2 Chron. 16. 7, 10. But God would not suffer this Sin to go unpunished: For, verse 12. *He was diseased in his Feet* (probably of the Gout,) *and his disease was exceeding great, which in the end took away his Life.*

10. King *Ahab* persecuted the Prophet *Micaiah*, who dealt plainly and faithfully with him, and sent him to *Amon* the Governour of the City, and to *Joash* the King's Son, saying, *Put this fellow in the Prison, and feed him with Bread of affliction,*
and

for Persecutors.

7

and with water of affliction, until I return in Peace, 2 Chron. 18. 26. But notwithstanding all his Policy in disguising himself, he was slain in that Battle, *verse 33.*
34.

11. *Jesabel* his Wife slew the Prophets of the Lord, 1 Kings 18. 13. and persecuted *Elijah*: But *Jehu* being made King, when he was come to *Jezreel*, *Jezabel* painted her Face, and tired her Head, and looking out to *Jehu* said, Had *Zimri* peace that slew his Master? *Jehu* seeing her, commanded her to be thrown down out of the Window, which was accordingly done by some of her own Servants; By the fall she was slain, and trampled under Horses feet, and her Body was torn, and devoured by Dogs, 2 Kings 9. 30, 33, 35.

12. *Manasse* persecuted the Ancient and Noble Prophet *Isaiab*, (who probably was of the Royal Blood) for his free reproofs for all his wickedness, who thereupon caused him to be sawn in sunder with a wooden Saw (as *Josephus* saith:) But not long after the Lord brought upon him the Captains of the Host of the King of *Assyria*, who took *Manasse* among the Thorns, and bound him in Fetters, and carried him to *Babylon*, where he was cast into a

Dungeon, 2 Chron. 33. 11.

13. The wicked *Jews* grievously persecuted the Prophet *Jeremiah*: First, they smote him with the Tongue, Jerem. 18. 18. Come, say they, Let us devise devises against *Jeremiah* — Come and let us smite him with the Tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his Words. Afterwards *Pashur* the Priest, smote him, and put him in the Stocks; whereupon *Jeremiah* denounced this Judgment against him: *The Lord hath not called thy Name Pashur, but Magor-missabib. For thus saith the Lord, I will make thee a terror to thy self, and to all thy Friends, and they shall fall by the Sword of their Enemies, and their Eyes shall behold it. — And thou Pashur and all that are in thine House shall go into Captivity, and thou shalt come to Babylon, and there thou shalt die,* Jerem. 20. 2, 3, 4, 6. Which grievous threatenings were without all question performed.

14. After this the Priests, and the Prophets, and all the People took *Jeremiah*, and said, *Thou shalt surely die,* Jer. 26. 8. To whom *Jeremiah* said, *As for me, Behold, I am in your Hand: Do with me as seemeth good unto you: But know ye for certain, that if you put me to death, ye shall surely bring innocent Blood upon your self, and upon this City, and upon the*
the

the Inhabitants thereof, &c. verse 14, 15.

per- they
 .18. *Jeremiah* to be cast into Prison for foretell-
 gainst him ing the destruction of *Jerusalem*, & the Cap-
 ed to the tivity of *Zedekiah*, *Jer.* 32. 2, 3. &c. But God
 the suffered him not to go unpunished. For not
 in the long after, the City (according to *Jeremiah's*
 nced bath Prophecy) was taken, & *Zedekiah* was, in his
 gor- flight, overtaken, and carried to the King of
 make *Babylon*, who slew his Sons before his eyes, &
 ends, that that dreadful sight might be the last
 Ene- thing that he should ever see he immediatly
 put out his eyes, and bound him with Chains,
 and carried him to *Babylon*, *Jer.* 39. 5, 6, 7. And
 thine *Zedekiah's* Princes, & Nobles, who had smit-
 shalt ten *Jeremiah*, and put him into Prison, *Jer.* 37.
 die, 15. & did afterwards cast him into a Dunge-
 reat- on, where he did stick in the mire, *Jer.* 38. 6.
 ned. When the City was taken, they also being
 Pro- over-taken, were carried to the King of *Ba-*
 and *bylon*, who slew them all, *Jerem.* 38. 6.

16. Afterwards when the People were
 carried into Captivity, *Jeremiah* being (ac-
 cording to his own desire) left in the Land
 of *Juda*, he with the rest of the People,
 was carried perforce by *Johanan*, and some
 other wicked Captains into *Egypt*, unto
 whom he foretold that they should their

perish by the Sword, and by the Famine, and by the Pestilence, for which plain and faithful dealing, they stoned him to Death (as *Josephus* reports:) But it was not long before *Nebuchadnezzar* came, and overcame the *Egyptians*, and plundered the Country, at which time those Predictions of *Jeremy* were fulfilled upon his Persecuting Enemies, *Jerem.* 43. 6, 7. and 44. 11, 12. &c.

17. And that the destruction of *Jerusalem*, and the *Babylonish* Captivity (which continued seventy Years) was in a special manner inflicted upon them for their crying sin of persecuting the Ministers and People of God, appears plainly, 2 *Chron.* 16. 17. Where it is said: *They mocked the Messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his Prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against his People, till there was no remedy. Therefore he brought upon them the King of the Chaldees, who slew their young men with the Sword in the House of their Sanctuary, and had no compassion upon Young Man, or Maiden, Old Man, or him that stooped for Age, &c.*

18. During the Captivity, *Haman* the *Agagite* (a deadly Enemy to the Church and People of God) had got a Decree from King *Ahasuerus*, upon a certain Day to
destroy

destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish all Jews both Young and Old, little Children and Women, and to take the spoil of them for a prey, Esther 3. 13. But God wonderfully defeated this design, preserved his People, and turned the Mischief intended against them, upon their Enemies Pates. For this wicked *Haman* was himself hanged upon the Gallows, fifty Cubits high, which he had prepared for *Mordecai*, Esther 7. 9. His ten Sons also were slain, Esther 9. 10. And all others that rose up against them.

19. Sometime after the return of the Jews from the *Babylonish* Captivity, *Antiochus Epiphanes*, or the Vile rather, was a cruel and merciless Persecutor of the Godly among them: But being in straits for want of mony, he went into *Persia* to gather up some: And being there, he heard that in a wealthy City, called *Elymais*, there was a very Rich Temple dedicated to *Diana*: Thither therefore he went, and besieged it; But the Inhabitants, sallying out, drave him away with great shame and loss: And when he came back to *Babylon* he heard of the overthrow of his Captains and Armies in *Judea*: Which News (together with his late defeat) so wrought upon him, that he fell sick, and finding no

hope of recovery, he called his most familiar Friends unto him, and told them that his Disease was violent and desperate, and that he was justly Plagued by God, with this grievous Sicknes, for that he had tormented the People of the *Jews*, destroyed their Temple and committed horrible Sacrilege, and for contemning the Majesty of God: But now he Vowed, that if it would please the Lord to receive him, he would become a *Jew*, and do many great things for the People of God: As also that he would go through all the known World to declare the power of God: Notwithstanding which (the Lord knowing his Hypocrisie) continued to plague him after a very grievous and terrible manner. For he had a remediless and incessant pain in his Bowels, and intollerable torments in all his inward parts. His Body bred abundance of Worms, which continually crawled out of the same: Yea, he so rotted above ground, that whole flakes of flesh fell from his Body, which was accompanied with such an intollerable stink that none were able to come near him, neither could he himself endure the same, which forced him to say, *It is meet to submit to God, and for man which is mortal, not to set himself in competition*

petition with God. Thus this vile Person, who formerly in a proud and insolent manner had Protested that he would make *Jerusalem* a common burying place, and the Streets thereof to run with the blood of God's People, by God's just Judgment ended his life in extream misery in a Strange Land, upon the Mountains of *Parata*, near *Babylon*.

20. Probably under him it was that the Saints endured most of those Persecutions which are mentioned by the Apostle in that *little Book of Martyrs*, Heb. 11. 36, 37, 38. Others had trial of cruel mockings, and scourgings; yea, moreover of Bonds, and imprisonment. They were stoned; they were sawn asunder; were tempted; were slain with the Sword: They wandered about in Sheepskins, and Goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented: Of whom the World was not worthy: They wandered in Desarts, and Mountains, and in Dens, and Caves of the Earth.

Of God's Judgments upon Persecutors under the New Testament.

Herod, surnamed the Great, hearing by the Wise men that came out of the

the East, that there was one, who was born King of the Jews, and being informed by the Chief Priests and the Scribes that the place of his Birth should be *Bethlem of Judah*, he sent forth his Soldiers, and (to make sure work) *he slew all the Children that were in Bethlem, and in all the Coasts thereof, from two years old and under*, hoping thereby to have destroyed Christ. But presently after, the Lord gave him over to a Spirit of Phrensie, that he slew *Maryanne*, his Beloved Wife, and his Children (which made *Augustus Cesar* say, *That it was better to be Herod's Dog than his Son*) and his nearest Kinsfolk, and familiar Friends, And shortly after, God's terrible Judgment fell upon him by a grievous Disease, which was a slack and slow Fire in his inward parts: He had also a greedy and Doglike appetite after Food, which yet was insatiable: He had also a rotting in his Bowels, and a grievous Flux in his Fundament: A moist and running humor in his Feet, and the like Malady vexed him about his Bladder: His Privy Members putrified, engendering abundance of Worms, which continually crawled and swarmed out of the same. He had a short and a stinking Breath, with a great pain in breathing: And
through

through all the parts of his Body such a violent Cramp, as no human strength was able to endure. Yet longing after Life, he sent for *Physicians* from all parts, by whose advice he went to the hot *Baths* at *Calliroe*: But finding no ease by the use thereof, and his torments still encreasing, he endeavoured to lay violent Hands upon himself, had he not been prevented by his Friends about him; and so at last (having had some foretastes of the torments of Hell) in extream anguish he ended his wretched Life.

22. *Herod the Less*, surnamed *Antipas*, having married the Daughter of *Aretas*, King of *Arabia*, after a while, put her away, and took *Herodias*, who had forsaken her Husband *Philip*, *Herod's* Brother: For which Incestuous, and Adulterous Marriage, *John the Baptist* plainly reproved him, saying, *It is not lawful for thee to have her*, Matth. 14. 4. Hereupon, at the instigation of *Herodias*, he first cast *John* into Prison, and afterwards cut off his Head. But the Lord suffered not this wicked Murther to go long unpunished: For *Aretas*, raising an Army against *Herod*, for his ignominious dealing with his Daughter, in a pitch'd Battle, wholly overthrew him, and cut off his whole Host. And not long after *Herod* falling

falling into disgrace with *Augustus*, the Roman Emperor, he, together with his Incestuous *Herodias*, were banished to *Vienne* in *France*, where they ended their wretched lives with much shame and misery.

23. After this there arose a third *Herod*, surnamed *Agrippa*, who (not taking warning by his Predecessors calamities) fell to Persecuting the Church of *Christ*, and converting *James* the Brother of *John*, before him, he condemned him to be beheaded: And seeing the Death of *James* pleased the *Jews*, he took *Peter* also, and delivered him to four *Quaternians* of Soldiers to keep him in Prison, intending after the Passover to put him to Death, *Acts* 12. 1. &c. But neither did this Bloody Persecuting *Herod* escape any better than his Predecessors had done: For upon a great Festival day, he being arraigned in glittering and Royal Apparel, Sat upon his Throne, and made an Oration to the People, which being ended, the People gave a shout, saying, It is the Voice of a God, and not of a Man: Whereupon the Angel of God's Immutability smote him, and he was eaten of Worms, and gave up the Ghost, in the fifty fourth year of his Age, and the Seventh of his Reign under *Claudius Cæsar*.

24. Now

24. Now the Sins of the Jews being ripe, especially that heinous Sin of Persecuting the Prophets, and Messengers of God; cried aloud for Judgment (according as *Christ* had foretold them) *Matth. 23. 34, 35, 36. &c.* Behold (saith he) I send unto you Prophets, and Wise men, and Scribes, and some of them you shall kill and crucifie, and some of them ye shall scourge in your Synagogues, and persecute them from City to City, that upon you may come all the righteous Blood shed upon the Earth from the Blood of the Righteous Abel, unto the Blood of Zacharias, Son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the Temple and the Altar: Verily I say unto you all these things shall come upon this Generation. And that you may know more particularly what those Judgments were, our Saviour *Christ* sets them down, *Matth. 23, 38.* Your House is left unto you desolate: And more plainly, Chap. 24. 21, 22. Then shall be great Tribulation, such as was not from the beginning of the World to this time: No, nor ever shall be: And except those Dayes should be shortened, their should no Flesh (to wit, of the Jews) be saved: But for the Elects sake those Dayes shall be shortened.

25. These Predictions of our Saviour were fulfilled by the Roman Armies under
Vespasian,

Vespasian, and *Titus* his Son: For besides the Afflictions which beset them in divers other Countries, being tossed up and down by the *Roman* Deputies, there were slain in *Cesarea* twenty thousand in one day: At *Alexandria* fifty Thousand another Day: At *Zabulon* and *Joppa* eight Thousand and four Hundred: At *Damascus* ten Thousand had their Throats cut. In the Siege of *Jerusalem*, they were so miserably pinched with Famine, that Oxen's Dung was accounted good meat: Others fed upon old Leather, and some Women boiled their own Children, and did eat them. Many hoping to save their Lives by flying to the *Romans*, had their Bowels ript up, to search for Gold and Jewels in their Stomacks and Guts: Two Thousand of them thus perished in one Night. Ninety seven Thousand of them were taken Prisoners (besides what fell under the Sword) when *Jerusalem* was taken by Storm, and eleven Hundred Thousand perished by the Sword, Famine, and Pestilence, during the Siege, and at the taking of the City. Some of the Prisoners were carried to *Rome* to grace their Triumph: Others were slain in divers Places at the Conquerors Will: Some were torn in pieces and devoured by wild Beasts:

Beasts: Others were compelled to march in Troops against their Fellows, and to kill one another to make the Spectators sport. The Reliques of this wretched People were dispersed into all Nations under Heaven, having no Magistrates of their own to protect them; but were, and still are altogether at the will and discretion of the Lords of those Countries where they sojourn: So that no Nation under Heaven is so vile and contemptible as the *Jews*.

26. Yet here was not an end of their misery: For in the Reign of the Emperor *Trojan*, these wretched People rebelled against the *Romans* in *Egypt* and *Cyprus*, and falling upon the Inhabitants, used unheard-of cruelties towards them; whereupon *Trajan* sent against them *Martius Turbo*, who slew many Thousands of them. And fearing lest the *Jews* in *Mesopotamia* should break forth into the like Outrages, he commanded *Lucius Quintus* to destroy them utterly, who so diligently executed his Will, that the Emperor, to recompence his service, made him President of *Judea*.
Dion.

27. After him *Adrian* the Emperour sent *Severus* his General against these wretched *Jews*, who (by reason of their multitude) would

would not trie it out in a pitched Battle, but proceeding more warily, and taking his opportunities, he by degrees, took fifty of their Strong Castles, razed nine Hundred and fourscore of their best Towns, and slew five Hundred and eighty Thousand of them: Besides multitudes that perished by Famine, Diseases and Fire, so that almost all *Judea* was made desolate: He also by an Edi& prohibited the *Jews* from coming near to *Jerusalem*, or from any high place to look towards the same. *Dion.*

28. *Salmaticensis* testifieth that this *Adrian* destroyed twice as many *Jews* as *Moses* brought out of *Egypt*. That he razed *Jerusalem*, and not far from it, built another City, which after his own Name he called *Ælia*, and over the Gates of it he placed Statues of Swine, which were faithful Porters to prohibit the Superstitious *Jews* from entrance.

29. *St. Hierom* tells us, that in his time, on that Day wherein *Jerusalem* was taken by the *Romans*, you might see decrepit women, and old ragged Women, and old ragged men, and many wretched People (but pitied of none) with blubbered cheeks, black Arms, dishivelled Hair, howling, and lamenting for the desolations of their Sanctuary,

Quary, in their Bodies and Habits, bearing and wearing the sad Characters of Divine Vengeance, of whom also the Soldiers exacted their Fees for granting them liberty of farther weeping : So that they who formerly sold the Blood of Christ and his Members, were then fain to buy their own Tears.

Gods Judgments on Persecutors during the ten Primitive Persecutions under the Heathen Emperors.

30. Nero (that monster of men) that raised the first bloody Persecution against the Christians, caused them to be clad in the skins of wild Beasts, and torn in pieces with Dogs : Others he Crucified : Of some he made Bone-fires to light him in his Night-sports. In brief, such horrible cruelties he used against them, as made them to be pitied of their very Enemies. But God at last found out this wretched Persecutor. For being adjudged by the Roman Senate to be an Enemy to mankind, he was condemned to be whip'd to Death ; To avoid which shameful end, he cut his own throat.

31. Domitian the Author of the second
C Persecution

Persecution against the Christians, grew to that prodigious height of Pride, that he would be adored as a God: But God raised up his own household Servants against him, who (by the consent of his Wife) slew him with Daggers in his privy Chamber. His Body was buried without honour: His memory accursed to all Posterities, and his Arms, and Ensigns were thrown down and defaced.

32. *Trajan*, though a prudent Prince, and good civil Magistrate, yet by the instigation of Satan and his Instruments, raised the third Persecution against the Church: For which the vengeance of God, and his heavy hand fell upon him. For first he fell into a grievous Palsie: then lost the use of his Senses: and lastly fell into a Dropsie, and dyed in great anguish and misery.

33. *Adrian*, who raised the fourth Persecution, causing ten thousand Christians to be crucified in *Armenia*, and afterwards stirred up a hot and cruel Persecution against them in other places, was stricken by God with an issue of blood from his Lungs which exceedingly disquieted and weakened him: Then he fell into a Consumption of the Lungs, which he spat out continually

ally : And in the mean time he was afflicted with an insatiable Dropsie, whereupon, finding himself so variously tormented, he would have taken Poison; or cut his throat with a Knife : But his Friends preventing him, he was forced to die a lingering and painful Death.

34. *Marcus Antonius Verus*, who continued the fourth Persecution, exercising exceeding great cruelties against the Christians in all parts of his Empire, especially at *Lions*, and *Vienne* in *Dalphine* : For which cause, the Lord struck him with a grievous *Apoplexy*, of which, after he had lain speechless three days, he dyed.

35. *Comodus* the Emperor, who continued also this fourth Persecution against the Christians, was given over to such abominable wickedness, that he kept three hundred Concubines, and as many boys for unnatural and delectable uses : and for his cruelty was poisoned by his Friend *Marcia*, which caused him to fall into extreme and deadly vomiting, in which he was slain by *Narcissus*, one of his Chamberlains.

36. *Severus*, the Author of the fifth Persecution, never prospered after he began the same, but fell into diverse calamities : And at length was stricken by God with

such an extreme pain through all the parts of his Body, that being in misery therewith, he would fain have poisoned himself; but being prevented by his Friends, he dyed a languishing and painful death.

37. Under him, *Claudius Herminianus* Governour of *Cappadocia* (out of hatred to his wife who was a Christian) extremely persecuted, and afflicted many of Gods children: he was stricken by God with a Pestilential Carbuncle, and had Vermine bred in his bowels which devoured him alive, after a most horrible manner, which extorted a confession from him, that those Plagues fell justly upon him for his persecuting the Christians.

38. *Maximianus* the Empreor, who raised the sixth Persecution against the people of God, especially against the Pastors of the Church, was himself together with his Son slain by his own Soldiers.

39. *Decius* who raised the seventh Persecution, labouring by all means utterly to destroy the Church of Christ, exercising all the cruelty and torments that the wit of man could invent against them. For this cause God raised up the *Scythians* against him, who in a bloody battel, routed and overthrew his Army, and himself

and Son were cruelly slain: or as others say, to avoid falling into his Enemies hands, he leap'd his horse into a Whirlpit, after which his body was never found.

40. Presently after the death of this Tyrant, a grievous Plague and Pestilence fell upon the bloody persecuting Gentiles in every of the *Roman* Provinces, which lasting ten years together, made such havock among them, as is horrible to hear, and almost incredible to believe. And it was observed, that where the Emperors Edicts had been put in Execution with most severity, there it raged most, insomuch that many places became utterly desolate.

41. *Gallus* the Emperor who continued the seventh Persecution, was himself with his Son slain by one of his own Captains.

42. *Valerian* the Emperor, in the beginning of his Reign was very mild towards the Christians: But afterwards (being stirred up by the Devil and his Instruments) proved a terrible Persecutor of them in all his Dominions: But not long after, he was overthrown by the *Persians* in a bloody Battel; wherein himself was taken Prisoner, being seventy years old, and made so vile a slave, that *Sapores* the King of *Persia*, used his back as a Block whereby

to mount on Horse-back, and afterward he caused him to be flayed alive, and powdered with Salt, so that he dyed in cruel torments. *Eusebius.*

43. *Claudius* a President, and one of his Ministers of cruelty, was possessed by the Devil, and so grievously tormented, that biting off his tongue in small bits, he dyed miserably. This was the eighth Persecution.

44. *Aurelian* who raised the ninth Persecution, being about to send out an Edict for renewing the Persecution against the Christians, as he was about to sign it, a Thunderbolt fell at his Feet, which so terrified him, that for the present he forbore. But afterward, renewing it again, God stirred up his Servants to cut his throat. *Niceph. Eutropius.*

45. *Dioclesian* the Author of the tenth Persecution, First used all Politick ways to cause all the Christians in his Armies to renounce their Faith. Then by Proclamation he commanded all their Churches to be beaten down; their Bibles to be burnt, and torn in pieces: That all Christians in an Office should be ejected: That Christian Bondmen who would forsake their Profession should be made free: But when, no

with

withstanding this, he saw that the number of Christians still increased, being satiated with blood, he resigned, and gave over the Empire: But shortly after God struck him with diverse and strange diseases: His house was burnt down by Lightning from Heaven: And himself was so affrighted with a dreadful Thunder that he ran mad, and killed himself. *Ruffinus.*

46. *Maximinian* also, his Fellow-Emperor raged exceeding cruelly, and outrageously against the Christians. For when twenty thousand of them, upon a Solemn Festival Day, were assembled in a Temple at *Nicomedia*, to serve God, he caused it to be environed with some Bands of Soldiers, to be set on fire, and to be burnt with all that was in it. And a City of Christians in *Phrygia*, taking it after a long Siege, he caused it to be burnt, and razed to the ground, with all that were in it. But shortly after God struck him with a grievous and incurable Disease, wherein Vermin bred abundantly in his Body, which was accompanied with such an horrible stink, that, not being able to endure it, he hanged himself.

47. *Maximinus* that next succeeded in the Eastern Empire, was a cruel and implacable

placable Persecutor of the Saints. For which God struck him with an uncooth and loathsome Disease. In his Privy Members there grew a sudden putrefaction, and at the bottom of the same there arose a botchy corrupt Bile, with a *Fistula* consuming and eating up his Entrails, out of which came swarming and innumerable company of Lice, which was attended with such a pestiferous stink as none were able to abide it. And being a corpulent man, all his fat so putrified, and stank so horribly, that some of his *Physicians*, not being able to endure it, he commanded to be slain: and others of them were cruelly put to death, because they could not cure him. But at last being told that it was Gods just revenging hand upon him for persecuting his people, he seemed to relent, and commanded the Persecution to cease: and God was pleased in some measure to ease him of his grievous torments. But about six months after, he sent forth a new Proclamation for the utter rooting out of the very name of Christians, whereupon his disease returned again, and assaulted him in greater extremity than before; so that his body being all rotten and full of corruption and worms, he dyed an accursed and miserable Death. *Chrysostom*
saith

faith, that the Apples of his eyes fell out before he dyed.

48. *Galerius* a chief Instrument of the Persecution under *Dioclesian* fell into a grievous Disease: in the nether part of his belly there arose a spreading sore which consumed his Privy Members, from whence there crawled abundance of worms, bred of the putrefaction, which neither *Chyrurgeons*, nor *Physicians* could cure. This made him to acknowledge that it was a just hand of God upon him for his cruelty to the Christians, and so he dyed miserable; or as others write, he slew himself. *Languets Chron.*

49. *Licinius* the Eastern Emperor, a bloody and merciless Enemy to the Christians, was in two great Battels overthrown by *Constantine* the Great, and slain by his Soldiers.

50. *Antiochus*, who passed sentence upon *Agapetus*, a godly young man, that was but fifteen years old, fell down suddenly as he sat upon the Seat of Judicature, crying out, that all his bowels burned within him, and so he dyed in great torment.

61. *Mamuca*, a *Saracen*, being a cruel Persecutor of the people of God, like unto *Pharoah*, met also with the like stroke of
Gods

Gods vengeance. For as he was returning by Sea, with his Army in a hundred Ships, from the slaughter of the Christians, God sent such a Storm upon them, that few or none of them escaped drowning. *Paulus Diaconus. Lib. 3. c. 12.*

Julian, surnamed *The Apostate*, was first a Christian, yet afterward became a Heathen, and proved one of the most dangerous and deadly Persecutors that ever the Christian Church had. First, he began to undermine the Christian Religion by Policy, and afterwards proceeded to downright blows, letting loose the Gentiles, and his Governours upon the Christians, wherein neither *Arian*, nor *Orthodox* is spared from Imprisonment, Banishment, Tortures, and what not? And when complaints were made hereof to the Emperour, he answered, *That their Religion taught them to bear all patiently.* He would not endure that Christians children should be trained up in humane Learning, because he saw the Christians did beat the Gentiles with their own weapons, and made *Philosophy* an Instrument to serve Divinity: He took away the Ministers maintenance, thereby destroying not so much *Presbiters*, as the *Presbytery*. But whilest he was thus busie

busie against the Church: he was called to an expedition against the *Persians*: whereupon he made a solemn Protestation, that when he returned from this war, he would utterly root out Christianity, and so proceeding in his journey, he beat the Enemy to a confused retreat; whereupon, that he might pursue them with the more speed, he threw off his Armor, but as he was posting on, he was met by a Dart, or arrow that pierced through his arm, and entered into his side, and whilest he endeavoured with the other hand to draw it out, he received another wound, and thereupon fell from his horse, and receiving his blood, gushing from his wound into his hands, he threw it up into the Air, saying, *vicisti Galilee, vicisti*: O thou *Galilean* (so he called Christ in scorn) thou hast overcome me: and *Nazianzen* saith, that his body was carried away in a tempest, without Lamentation, and without Burial.

Gods Judgments upon persecuting Hereticks.

53. *Arius* the first great disturber of the peace of the Christian Church, was sent for by *Constantine the Great*, who asked him what the

the matter was that where-ever he went, still tumults and slaughters followed him. And whether he did really agree with the *Nicene Faith*? *Arius* did professedly avow that he did full agree thereto. The Emperor commanded him to set the same down in writing under his hand, which he did in the Emperors presence. Then the Emperor required his Oath to manifest that he was reall in the same: and he readily made Oath, that what he had written, was according to the truth, and that it was his reall Judgment and Opinion. The Emperor now having his Subscription and Oath, was satisfied, and would have him first to communicate with the *Orthodox* Church at *Constantinople*, that he might be the better qualified for Communion with the Church at *Alexandria*, where *Athanasius* had mightily opposed him: and accordingly he wrote to *Alexander* the Bishop of *Constantinople* to receive *Arius* into Communion.

54. *Alexander*, laying aside all further Disputes (by which hitherto he had mightily opposed the *Arian* Party) betook himself wholly to Prayer, wherein he continued fervently for diverse days and nights: but more especially that next day before
the

the *Lords Day*, wherein *Arius* was to be admitted to the Sacrament: the Sum of which Prayer was this,

It must needs be thus, O Lord, that Arius must communicate with this People to morrow. Let thy Servant, O Lord, now depart in peace, and never see that day: and destroy not thou the Righteous with the Wicked: But if thou wilt spare thy Church, (as thou wilt spare it) remember the words of Eusebius (an Arian Bishop) and give not over thine inheritance to destruction and contempt, and take Arius out of the way, lest he being admitted into Communion, Heresie should seem also to be received into Communion with the Truth, and wickedness be accounted Godliness.

This *Eusebius*, Bishop of *Nicomedia* at *Constantinople* had now the whole conduct of the matter concerning *Arius*, and sent word to *Alexander* that unless he would receive *Arius* into Communion, he would banish him from *Constantinople*, and put another into his place that should do the Work. But *Eusebius* for all his threats, missed his expectation. For the *Lords Day* being come, *Arius* with the Emperors Authority, marched forth in State out of the Emperors Hall, with *Eusebius* and other Bishops in his train: and passing along the
Streets

Streets in Pomp (a strange manner of address to the Sacrament) came to the common Market Place, where a sudden fear fell upon him, and therewithal, he was surprised with a Flux, which enforced him to retire into a House appointed for such a purpose, and there suddenly his Speech failed him : his Excrements and Blood ran out, his Belly brake, his Guts fell out, and his Spleen and Liver followed. The people staying long in expectation of him, and he not coming, they entred the house, and found the sad Spectacle of him lying dead in that manner.

Constantius, one of the sons of *Constantine* was himself an *Arian*, and a great favourer of diverse *Arian* Bishops, by whom (by his Countenance and Authority) the Orthodox Christians were grievously persecuted. And thus this Emperor, who would be stiled *Eternal Emperor*, and yet would not allow *Christ* to be *Eternal God*, and instead of being exceeding *Great*, became odious to all good men, was abhorred by his own Soldiers: and lastly was loathed by himself; he saw his Honour buried before he dyed : became a tormentor to himself by jealousies, fears and vexations, and these brought on a Fear, which soon put a period to his life.

55. In the Reign of *Julian*, one *George* an *Arian* Bishop of *Alexandria*, having raged exceedingly against the *Orthodox*: yet would also shew his zeal against the Heathen Temples, which did so vex and exasperate the Gentiles, that they, taking advantage of *Julian's* coming to the Crown, rose in a tumult, and seized upon Bishop *George*, tyed him to a Camels tail, and dragged him through the streets of *Alexandria*, and then they burnt both Bishop and Camel in one fire. And thus God rendred to this *Heretical* Bishop a recompence for all his villanies, and outrages done to the *Orthodox*.

56. *Valence*, another *Arian* Emperor, was a great countenancer and encourager of the *Heresie*, and a Persecutor of the *Orthodox*; insomuch as when *Athanasius* was dead in *Alexandria*, the Persecution broke in like a Torrent, so that no man could stand before it: The *Orthodox* Churches both in City and Country were swallowed up, and destroyed by it. Yet this Flood stopped not there, but brake (as it were) out of the world into the wilderness among the *Monks*, where this Persecution raged most of all, till the Heathen *Goths* paid the Debt of the people of God, by the death
of

of the Emperor *Valence*, somewhat like that of *Julian*, saving that after his wounds received in the Battel, with much ado he got into a town for succor, wherein, together with the whole town, he was by the pursuing *Goths* burnt alive.

57. Another *Constantine*, a *Monothelite*, being a cruel Persecutor of the *Orthodox*, was slain by one of his own servants as he was washing himself in a Bath. *Hist. Magd.*

Genfericus, an *Arian* King of the *Vandals*, used a great deal of cruelty against the *Orthodox*; and in the end, he was possessed by an evil Spirit, and dyed miserably. *P. Melan. Chron.*

58. *Hunricus*, a Son to a King of the *Vandals*, being an *Arian*, was a merciless Persecutor of the *Orthodox*, banishing five thousand of them at one time, among whom, some of them being unable to travel, he caused cords to be tyed to their legs, and to drag them through stony and rough places, whereby many of them perished. But not long after, God struck him with venomous Biles all over his Body, and in the end he was consumed by Lice. *H. Magd.*

Anastasius the Emperor, a Patron of the

the *Eutychian Heresie*, was a bloody Persecutor of godly Christians, and was slain by a Thunderbolt.

59. *Arcadius* the Emperour, having by the perswasion of *Eudoxia*, his Empress, who was a violent *Arian*, banished *Chrysostom* from *Constantinople*: the very next night, there was such a terrible Earthquake, that the Emperor and all the people being extremely frightened, sent one Post after another to fetch him back again.

60. *Theodoricus*, an *Arian* King of the *Goths*, persecuted the sound Christians with all rigor and hostility, among whom he slew two noble Senators, *Symmachus*, and *Boetius*; But not long after the Lord stroke him with madness: And as he was sitting at his Table, he had the head of a great Fish set before him, which he imagined to be the head of *Symachus*, whom he had slain, and thereupon he fell into such fear and astonishment, that he soon after dyed. *Evagri*.

61. The *Arian Vandals* in *Africk* were cruel Persecutors of the *Orthodox*, whereupon *Justinian* the Emperor sent against them his brave General *Belizarius*, who overthrew them in several Battels, took *Gilimer* their King prisoner, and wholly sub-

verted the Empire of the *Vandals* in *Africk*, after they had reigned there by the space of ninety years, wherein, for the most part they had been merciless Persecutors of the true Christians.

Gods Judgements upon Popish Persecutors.

62. About the year 1488 some Popish Bishops in *Bohemia*, stirred up the Queen, who was then great with child, to move the King *Uladislaus*, severely to punish the *Piccards*, as the godly Christians were then called: and the Queen much pleased herself in thinking what grateful Spectacles she should have, when she should see some of them burnt, others beheaded, and others drowned in the River: But it pleased God that before she could see it effected, she fell in travel, and could by no means be delivered of her burden; whereupon the Physicians advised that the child should be cut out of her womb, which being done accordingly, the child lived, but the mother dyed.

63. Two years after, the Bishops by their importunity prevailed with the King to use sharp remedies against those growing evils, mu

evils, as they called them: whereupon an
 Edict was drawn up, that all the *Piccards*
 in the Kingdom, without distinction of
 Age, Sex, or Quality should be slain. This
 was brought to the Assembly of States,
 then met at *Prague*, to be confirmed by
 them. Many of the Nobles opposed it;
 but by the subtilty of the Chancellor, and
 his Associates, it was at last agreed upon by
 the major part: and the Chancellour
 as he returned homeward from the Parlia-
 ment, visited a Nobleman of his acquaint-
 ance, and told him with much joy, what
 they had resolved upon. The Nobleman
 had a Servant standing by, who was a great
 favourer of the Brethren, he asked him,
 how he liked this Decree? The Servant
 answered, that sure all parties were not a-
 greed. The Chancellour, suspecting some
 secret Treachery, asked him, who durst op-
 pose the States of the Kingdom? The
 Servant answered, *There is one in Heaven,*
who, if he were not present at your Counsels,
you have consulted but in vain. The Chan-
 cellour replied, thou Knave, thou shalt
 find that, as well as the rest: And so, rising
 up in a fury, immediately a Carbuncle a-
 rose upon his Foot, which turned to a di-
 viding scafe called *Ignis Sacer*, whereby he dyed in
 much misery.

64. Another who was a great stickler in promoting this Decree, in his return home-wards, as he was alighting out of his Chariot to make water, struck his Member on a sharp Nail that was in the Boot, whereby, as he went forward, he drew out his Entrails, and not long after gave up the Ghost.

Also one Dr. *Austin*, who by slanderous Libels had stirred up the King to this Persecution, dyed suddenly as he sat at Supper.

65. Another Noble-man who promoted the aforesaid Decree, as he was a hunting, his Horse threw him, and his own Arrow ran into his Thigh, and came out at his Loins, whereby he dyed a very painful death. And many others of them met with the like Judgments from God, whereupon it grew into a Proverb: *If you be weary of your Life, attempt something against the Piccards, and you shall not escape a year to an end.*

66. The year after two German Tradesmen were apprehended at Prague, and by the Monks there, were accused of Lutheranism, for which they were condemned and burnt: But one of their chief Persecutors, who wished that all the Piccards were hanged,

changed, burned, or beheaded by his hands, pleased God that all these evils befell himself: For, being exceedingly in debt, for every vexation, he hanged himself: And when his friends had buried him privately, the common people, hearing of it, dig'd up his carcass, and threw it away, which, by the Magistrates command, was ordered to be burnt: But when the Wood was consumed, and the Body only scorched, his head was by one stricken off.

67. As *John Huss* was going to *Constance*, there was one *Stanislaus Znoma*, a *Bohemian*, who, as he was travelling toward the Council to accuse him, was stricken by God with a deadly Impostume whereof he dyed in his journey.

This *Huss* though he had the Emperors *safe conduct*, was condemned and burnt there: Shortly after whose Death the *Bohemians* rose in Arms under their undaunted General *Zisca*, and had admirable successes against the Emperor, and *Popish* Parades. For they maintained war against the Emperor *Sigismund* by the space of seven years together, wherein he spent an infinite Treasure, lost many brave Armies, and gallant men. And during these wars thousand *Monasteries* were overthrown

and destroyed, many stately Castles demolished, and Cities plundered and burnt which was Gods just revenging hand upon him for his perfidiousness.

68. In the late *Bohemian* Persecution one Dr. *Knapper*, a great Persecutor of the godly Protestants, was slain by conspiracy of his own wife, who was an Adulteress for which she was hanged.

69. Another of those Persecutors vomited out his ungodly Soul together with his Blood.

70. Another ran mad, and threw himself down from his own house, and roaring fearfully, breathed his last.

71. Another shot himself dead with his own Pistol.

72. Another ran mad, and withal fell into so loathsome a disease, that none could endure his stink, and at last he was choaked in vomiting up of abundance of Blood.

73. Another was seized with a strange Disease, wherein his Body turned as black as a coal, and he uttered his speech like the barking of a Dog, and within the space of three Days, dyed in terrible pains.

74. Another by the breaking of a great Gun was torn all to pieces.

75. Another

75. Another was taken with a terrible Disease in the Throat, so that his Tongue rotted in his Mouth, and many holes were eaten in his Throat, by which both Food, and Physick came forth, so that he dyed in much misery.

76. *Ladislaus* King of *Bohemia*, together with diverse other *Popish* Princes had conspired together, utterly to root out the Protestants in that Kingdom, which should have been put in execution at the time of the Kings marriage: But a little before, in the middle of his great preparations, he fell sick, and within the space of six and thirty hours, he dyed of a pestilent sore in his Groin.

77. In *France*, *Minerius* Governour of *Provence* was sent with an Army by the King against those ancient Christians, the *Waldenses*, who used much cruelty against them, burning some, killing others, driving others into Woods, and Mountains, whereby they perished of Famine, and depopulated whole Towns and Villages. Not long after the Lord smote him with a terrible Disease, so that he felt like a burning fire within him from the Navel upward: and his lower parts rotted and were consumed with Vermin, which mor-

tification was attended with a grievous stink: he had also a profusion of Blood instead of his Urine, and in those extreme Torments, he ended his wretched Life.

78. *Simon Monfort*, Earl of *Leicester*, was a cruel Persecutor of the godly *Albigenſes* under the King of *France*, and by the instigation of the *Pope*; But as he was besieging some of them in *Tholous*, his head was stricken off by a Stone, which a woman let flye out of an Engine.

79. *Lewis*, King of *France*, besieging *Avignon*, a City of the *Albigenſes*, vowed that he would never depart till he had taken it: But suddenly after, God sent a dreadful Pestilence into his Army, which daily wasted great numbers of his men: and the King himself was forced to quarter at a distance in an *Abby*, to avoid the infection, where shortly after he dyed out of his wits.

80. *Truchetus* an old expert Captain was imployed by the Duke of *Savoy* against the *Waldenses*, who were a naked and unarmed people: But whilest he was prosecuting of them, he was first sore wounded with Stones, and afterwards, slain with his own sword by a poor Shepherd, who was keeping Cattel in the Field.

81. The

81. The Lord of *Revest*, Chief President of the Parliament at *Aix* in *France*, put many godly Persons to death : but shortly after, himself was put out of his Office, and was stricken by God with such an horrible Disease as made him run mad, that none of his Friends durst come near him, and so he perished miserably.

82. After him succeeded in his Office one *Bartholomew Cassineus*, who proved also a pestilent Persecutor, whom the Lord struck with a fearful and sudden Death.

83. *Johannes de Roma*, a Monk was a bloody and implacable Persecutor of the *Waldenses*. His manner was to fill Boots with boiling Oil and put their Legs into them, tying them backward over a Form, their Legs hanging down over a soft fire, and afterwards cruelly to put them to Death, and seized upon their Goods. But not long after his own Servants rob'd him of those ill-gotten Goods : and he fell into a horrible Disease unknown to any *Physician*; the pains and torments whereof did so incessantly vex him, that he could, by no means have one minutes rest, neither could any endure to come near him by reason of his horrible stink. His body was full of

of Sores and Ulcers, which swarmed with Vermin, so that rotting, his flesh fell off by piece-meal. In which torment he often cryed out, *O ! who will deliver me, who will kill me, and deliver me out of these intollerable torments ?* and so languishing in anguish and despair, he ended his cursed Life.

84. *John Martin*, another great enemy to the *Waldenses*, used to boast every where that he would slit the nose of one of their chief Ministers : but before he could effect it, a Wolf meeting him, bit off his Nose, whereupon he ran mad, and died miserably.

85. The Cardinal of *Lorrain*, a principal Pillar of the House of *Guise*, a crafty and cruel Persecutor of the people of God, as he was coming from *Rome* with a purpose of stirring up the Kings of *France* and *Poland* utterly to root out the Protestants in their Dominions : It pleased God to work so wonderfully for his peoples safety, that by the way he fell mad at *Avignon*, and dyed in the Flower of his youth. At the instant of whose Death, there fell out such a dreadful Tempest as made all to be amazed at it.

86. *Bellemont*, a Counsellor of the Parliament

liament of *Provence*, was so hasty to condemn the poor people of God, that he went not from the Judgment Hall from Morning till Night, causing his Dinners to be brought to him. But whilest he was so busie in this way of Persecution, there began a little Sore to rise upon his Foot, which quickly grew red, and full of pain, and so encreased the first day, that by Judgment of *Chyrurgeons*, there was no hope of cure but by cutting off his Foot, which he refusing, they used all other means they could devise, yet the second day the whole Leg was infected, and the third day his whole Thigh, and the fourth day his whole Body, upon which day he dyed. His dead Body was all over parched as if it had been roasted by a fire.

87. A Judge of the City of *Aix*, who was a great Persecutor of the Protestants, drowned himself in the River.

A chief Judge, who was a principal Instrument in condemning the *Waldenses* in *Merindol*, and *Cabriers*, died suddenly, not living to see his bloody Sentence executed.

88. *John Cranequin*, a Lawyer of *Bourges*, who was a great Informer against the People of God, to bring them into the
cruel

cruel Inquisition, was stricken by God with a marvellous strange Phrensie, so that whatever he saw seemed to him to be crawling Serpents: And having in vain used all sorts of Medicines, yea, and wicked Sorcery too, at length was quite bereaved of his Senses, and so ended his wretched Life in much misery.

89. Chancellour *Prat*, who put up the first Bill in the Parliament of *France*, against those of that Religion, and gave out the first Commissions for the putting of them to death; dyed himself not long after, fearfully swearing, and blaspheming the name of God, and had his Stomach gnawn in pieces by worms in a strange manner.

90. *John Morin*, a mighty Enemy to the Professors of the Truth, who made it his whole business to apprehend and accuse them, dyed himself in most grievous, and horrible torments.

91. The Chancellor *Oliver*, who had been himself a Professor of the truth, apostatizing from the same, was restored to his Office, in which he spared not to shed much innocent Blood: But whilest he was thus busied, a fearful Judgment besel him (as was foretold by some of those Inno-

cents

cents whom he condemned) for falling into extreme terrors of Conscience, he betook himself to his bed, sighing and sobbing without intermission, and breathing forth murmurings against God ; yea, his horrors were so violent that he shook the Bed under him, as if a young man with all his Strength had done it. And a certain Cardinal coming to visit him, he could not endure his sight, crying out, that it was that Cardinal that had brought him to Damnation. He continued long under these dreadful torments, and dyed at last in despairing fear and anguish.

92. *Poncher*, Arch-Bishop of *Tours*, who condemned many godly persons to the Fire, was himself seized upon with a fire from God ; which, beginning at his heel, could by no means be cured, till one Member after another being cut off, he dyed in much misery.

93. An *Austin Friar* called *Lambert*, a Dr. and Prior in the City of *Lieg*, and one of the bloody Inquilitors, as he was one day preaching bitterly against the Protestants, was stricken speechless, and being carried out of his Pulpit into his Cloister, he was shortly after found drowned in a Ditch.

94. *An-*

94, *Augustine Marlorat*, a Learned, painful, and holy Preacher in *Roan*, was condemned to be hang'd, and drawn on a Hurdle to the place of execution: The Constable of *France* loaded him with a thousand reproaches and outrages, as also did Monsieur *Monbrun*, the Constables son, who shortly after was slain in the battel of *Dreux*: Also one *Villibon* gave him a switch with a wand, adding many reproachful speeches therewith, which *Marlorat* bore with admirable patience and meekness: And when he was executed and dead, the malice of his Adversaries rested not there: For one of the Soldiers struck on his Legs with his Sword: But speedy vengeance from God pursued his Persecutors: For the *Popish* Captain that apprehended him was slain within three weeks after, by the basest Soldier in all his Company: And two of his Judges dyed very strangely soon after; namely, the President of the Parliament, by a flux of blood, which could by no art, nor means be stopped: The other being a Counsellor, voided his Urine at his Fundament, which was accompanied with such an intollerable stink, that none could endure to come near him. *Villebon* also who switched him, sped

sped no better. For a while after the Marshal *Viel'e Vile*, coming to *Roan* about publick Affairs, invited *Villebon* to dinner, and in discourse, lamenting the miseries of that City, he exhorted him to reform many abuses, seeing he was the Kings Lieutenant there. *Villebon* took this so ill, that he said, *If any man dare tax me for not behaving my self as I ought in my place, I would tell him to his face that he lyed.* These words he repeated over so often, that the Marshal being much urged, struck at him with his Sword, with such violence, that, had he not received the blow with his Arm, his head had been cleft to the Teeth. Thus for the present he escaped with the loss of that hand wherewith he had stricken *Marlorat* in so disgraceful a manner at the place of Execution.

95. A young Gentlewoman of about three and twenty years old, came from *Gascoine* to *Paris*, to join her-self to the Protestant Church there: And after a while, she among others, was apprehended, imprisoned, and condemned to be burnt, which she endured with admirable patience and constancy, but presently two of them that bore witness against her, falling out, the one slew the other with a knife.

96. Charles

96. *Gharles Cominck*, who had been a *Friar* in the City of *Gaunt*, after his conversion, was apprehended, and condemned, but after his execution, one of his greatest Adversaries, who had a chief hand in his Death, fell into such grievous horrors and terrors of Conscience, that he dyed within a few days.

97. *Dr. Ægidio*, a godly Preacher in *Sevil*, being brought into the Inquisition, and used miserably by them, before they proceeded to condemn him, it pleased God, that three of the Inquisitors, who were his greatest adversaries, dyed, by which good Providence, he was released, and lived some years after.

98. The Emperor *Ferdinand* the second, was a great Persecutor of the Protestants in *Bobemia* and *Germany*, who after his Victory over *Frederick*, Prince Palatine, and the *Bohemian* States, made it his work to root out the Protestant Religion in those Countries, and turned them into a very shambles of Blood, sparing neither Age, Sex, nor Rank that refused to abjure the Truth. But whilst he was in his full Carier, God brought in against him a contemptible people [the *Swedes*,] under whose Swords most of those bloody wretches

wretches fell; who were the *Bohemian* Scourges, so that much of *Germany*, and of the Emperors Country was a very *A-celdama*, a Field of Blood. The Emperor's great Army, consisting of twenty four thousand, that had given Laws to *Germany* for many years together, and were looked upon as so many Captains by reason of their long practice and experience, was broken in the plain Field. And the Emperor himself being broken with breach upon breach, was forced to such terms as the Enemies could be drawn to.

Examples of Gods Judgments upon Popish Persecutors in England, and Scotland.

99. Sir *Thomas Moor*, and *Fisher*, Bishop of *Rocheſter*, who were great Persecutors of the Protestants in the Reign of King *Henry the Eighth*, were themselves not long after condemned for Treason, and beheaded.

100. *Philips*, who betrayed Mr. *Tindal* to the Emperors Secretary, fell into a grievous Disease, and was eaten up of Lice.

101. *Pavier*, The Town-clerk of *London*,
E. don,

don, a cruel Enemy to the true Professors of the Gospel, swore a great Oath, that if he thought the King would set forth the Scriptures in *English*, rather than he would live to see it, he would cut his own Throat. But he brake Promise (saith the Author) for instead thereof he hanged himself.

Foxford, Chancellour to *Stokesley*, Bishop of *London*, a bloody Persecutor, and the common Butcher of Gods Saints, dyed suddenly, sitting in his Chair, his Belly breaking, and his Guts falling out before him.

102. *Rockwood*, who was a great stirrer up of the Persecution against Gods people in *Calis*, suddenly fell sick, staring, raging, and crying out, *All to late: For I have maliciously sought the Death of many godly Persons, and that against mine own Conscience: and therefore all to late; All to late:* and thus he continued unto his end.

103. The under Marshal also, who at the same time was a Persecutor, fell down dead in the Council Chamber, and never spake word after.

104. *Adam Damlip*, a godly Preacher in *Calis*, was falsly accused of Treason, for which he was condemned, and executed;

cuted; and when he would have purged himself, Sir *Ralph Ellerker* would not suffer him to speak, but commanded him to be carried away to execution, saying, That he would not depart till he saw the Traitors heart out: But shortly after, in a skirmish against the *French*, this *Ellerker* was slain, and after they had stripped him naked, they cut off his Privy Members, and pulled out his Heart, which they did not to any other of the slain.

105. Dr. *Story*, a Bloody Persecutor in *Queen Marys* Days, when *Queen Elizabeth* came to the Crown, could not forbear to curse her daily in his Grace at Board; for which trayterous practice he was deservedly hanged.

106. *John Twiford*, a furious *Papist*, that used to set up Stakes for them that were burnt in *Smithfield*, dyed, rotting above ground, so that none could endure to come near unto him by reason of his horrible stink.

107. *William Gardiner*, an *English* Merchant, being present in *Lisbon* at the marriage of the King of *Portugal's* Son with the King of *Spain's* Daughter, and seeing the abominable Idolatry then used in the presence of the King; and of all the States

there assembled, he stepped to the Cardinal, who was celebrating of *Mass*, and plucked the Cake out of his hand, and trampled it under his Feet, and overthrew the Chalice: For which, by most exquisite torments in a horrible manner they put him to death by degrees, and then burned him, a Spark of whose Fire, was driven by the wind a great way into one of the Kings Ships lying in the Haven, and quite consumed it: and within half a year after the new married Prince dyed; and the year after the King himself dyed also.

108. Cardinal *Woolsey*, after much opposition against the Light of the Gospel which brake forth in his time, and much cruelty used against the Professors of it, fell into disgrace with King *Henry* the Eighth, who sent for him up out of *Yorkshire*, and in his journey (suspecting the issue) he took such a strong Purge, as his rotten Body not being able to bear, he dyed at the Abby of *Lecester*. His dead Body was as black as Pitch, and so heavy that six men could scarcely bear it, and it stank so intollerably that they were fain to hasten the Burial of it in the Night, at which time there was such an hideous Tempest, as blew out all the Torches, and

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the Storm was accomponied with such a
 sink, that they were glad to throw him into
 his Grave, and so to leave him.

109. Judge *Morgan* who passed Sentence
 of Condemnation upon the incomparable
 Lady *Jane Dudley*, shortly after ran
 mad, and in his raving fits, cryed out
 continually to have the Lady *Jane* taken
 away from him, and so he continued till
 he dyed.

110. *Morgan*, Bishop of *S. Davids* in
Wales, who condemned the Blessed Mar-
 tyr Mr. *Ferrar*, and unjustly usurped his
 Bishoprick, not long after was stricken by
 God in a most strange manner. For his
 food would not go down, but pick up a-
 gain, sometimes at his Mouth, sometimes
 blown out at his Nose, most horrible to
 behold: and thus he continued a Spectacle
 of Gods displeasure, till he dyed.

111. Mr. *Leyson* also who was Sheriff
 at the burning of Mr. *Ferrar*, having
 fetched away his Cattle, and put them in-
 to his own Grounds, diverse of them
 would never eat any meat, but continued
 bellowing and roaring till they dyed.

112. Dr. *Duning*, Chancellour of *Nor-*
wich, who was a Bloody Persecutor in the
 Reign of Queen *Mary*, was stricken

suddenly as he sat in his Chair, and dyed.

113. *Berry*, Commissary of *Norfolk*, another Bloody Persecutor, as he was walking with one of his Concubines, fell down suddenly with a heavy groan, and never stirr'd after.

114. A persecuting Suffragan of *Dover*, having been with Cardinal *Pool* for his Blessing, coming out of the Cardinal's Chamber, fell down the stairs, and brake his Neck.

115. Bishop *Thornton*, another cruel Persecutor, as he was looking upon his men at Bowls upon a *Sabbath-Day*, fell suddenly into a Palsie, and being carried to his Bed, and willed to remember the Lord: yea, (said he) *So I do: and my Lord Cardinal too: and so he dyed.*

116. Dr. *Jeffery*, Chancellour of *Salisbury*; a wretched Persecutor, who had appointed to call before him ninety godly Persons, and to examine them by Inquisition, the Day before, as he was looking upon his Buildings, fell down suddenly and dyed.

117. *Thomas Blaver*, a Privy Counsellor to the King of *Scots*, was a great Persecutor of the Faithful in that Land: But being

by God struck with sickness, he fell into Despair, crying out *That he was damned, and a Cast-away: That he was damned without remedy.* In which miserable condition he dyed without any sign of true repentance.

118. Henry, Arch-Bishop of Mentz, a godly, and religious man, was accused as being guilty of Heresie to the Pope, who sent two of his Cardinals to examine the matter: and they most unjustly deposed him, and cast him out of his place, whereupon he said unto them: *If I should from your unjust Sentence appeal unto the Pope, 'tis like I should find no redress from him; wherefore I appeal to the Lord Jesus Christ, that just and righteous Judge of all the world, and cite you to answer me before his Judgment Seat, for this unjust act of yours.* To which they scoffingly answered, *Go you first, we will follow after.* Not long after this, the good Arch-Bishop dyed, which, when the Cardinals heard of, they said jestingly one to another: *Behold, he is now gone before, and we must follow after according to our Promise.* And indeed shortly after they both dyed upon one day. The one, sitting upon a Jakes voided out his Entrails: The other, gnawing his own Fingers, and

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having made himself deformed with devouring himself; he dyed miserably.

119. About the year 1507. there was at *Chipping Sadbury* a godly woman convented before the Chancellour [*Dr. Whittington*] by whom she was condemned to be burnt. And against the day of her Execution, multitudes of people flocked to the Town, and among the rest, *Dr. Whittington* came to see her burnt. At the same time there was a Butcher in another part of the Town that was killing a Bull: But the Butcher, somewhat missing his blow, the Bull broke loose just as the people were coming from seeing the Execution of the Martyr: The people, seeing the Bull coming, divided themselves, and made a lane for him to pass through, the Bull went through, without hurting, man, woman, or child, till he came to the place where the Chancellour was, against whom he ran very furiously, and with his Horns, hitting him on the Belly, ran through it, and tearing out his Guts with his Horns, trailed them about the Streets, to the great astonishment of all that beheld it.

120. At the burning of *Alexander Gong*, and *Alice Driver*, Martyrs, there was one
Bate,

Bate, a Barber, that was a very busie man about burning them: but presently after Gods severe Judgment fell upon him, so that within three or four weeks after, he dyed in much misery.

121. In the Reign of *Queen Mary*, one of the Sheriffs of *London*, called *Mr. Woodrose*, used *Mr. Bradford* very churlishly at the time of his Execution, as he had dealt with *Mr. Rogers* before. He used also to laugh, and make himself sport at the sufferings of these innocent persons, and used to beat away the people who were desirous to shake them by the hand before their Death: but the Lord (who usually punisheth such bloody Persecutors) shortly after struck him with lameness upon one side, that he could never after turn him in his Bed. He had also a Dog-like Appetite, that could never be satisfied with Food: and in this misery he continued by the space of eight years, even till he dyed.

122. *Adam Foster* of *Mendlesham* in *Suffolk*, was apprehended by one *Thomas Mause*, and *George Rivet* for not coming to *Mass*, and by them was carried before *Sir John Tyrel*, who sent him to the Bishop of *Norwich*. But it pleased God that

Mause

Mouſe, was immediately after ſtricken with a grievous diſeaſe, whereof he ſhortly after dyed: And *Rivet* (not warned thereby, but) perſevering in his perſecuting ways, had a great ſwelling that roſe in his Legs, which grievouſly vexed, and tormented him; and at laſt, falling into a fearful Diſeaſe, he dyed miſerably, and in ſo impatient a manner, as terrified all that heard thereof.

123. *George Eagles*, Martyr, who was hanged at *Chelmeſford* in *Effex*, was cut down before he was dead, and ſadly mangled by one *William Swallow*, Bayliſſ of *Chelmeſford*: His Body being opened, they pulled out his heart, and quartered him, and ſet up his Quarters in ſeveral places. But ſhortly after, Gods terrible Judgments fell upon this *Swallow*, ſo that his Hair fell from his Head, his Eyes were ſo cloſed that he could ſcarce ſee, the Nails fell off from his Fingers and Toes, and a Leproſie over-ſpread his whole Body, and his Eſtate ſo melted away that he fell into Beggary, and dyed in much miſery.

124. *William Seaman*, *Thomas Carman*, and *Thomas Hudſon* were apprehended in *Norfolk*: Their Perſecutor was Sir *John Tyrel*,

Tyrel, who commanded his Servants to search for *Seaman*: One of their names was *Robert Baldwin*, a Neighbour to *Seaman*, and one in whom he put much confidence. Yet this treacherous person (to gratifie his Mr.) searched *Seamans* house in the Night, and finding him at home, carried him Prisoner to his Master. As they went in the way a strange Light fell from Heaven betwixt them: After which, this *Baldwin*, though then in the Flower of his Age, never enjoyed good day, but pined away till he dyed.

125. Mr. *William Brown*, Minister of *Little-Stanham* in *Suffolk*, for preaching boldly, and faithfully against the *Mass*, was persecuted by one *Robert Bloomfield*, Constable there. But the terrible hand of God fell upon him, both by Sicknes, and Consumption of his Estate, so that, being rich before, he became poor. His Wife also, and his Son dyed of pining Sicknes. And though he thought to repair his Estate, by marrying a rich Widdow, yet God still blowed upon it. His Body also was full of Botches and Sores, and being thus afflicted in Body, and impoverished in his Estate, he dyed in misery.

126. There was in *Lancashire*, one
Justice

Justice *Leland*, who was a great Persecutor of the godly in those parts: He one day as he was sitting in his Chair, and discoursing with his friends, fell down suddenly and dyed, never so much as once stirring after.

127. *Ralph Lardin*, the Betrayer of *George Eagles* aforementioned, was himself arraigned, condemned, and hanged. As he stood at the Bar, he said publicly, *This is justly faln upon me for betraying the Blood of that just and holy man, George Eagles, who, through my means was condemned, and I sold his life for a little money.*

128. *Mr. Swingfield*, a Deputy in *Thames-Street*, hearing that *Mrs. Angel*, a Midwife, and a gracious woman, was at a Gentlewomans Labour in *Crooked-Lane*, taking three others with him, he beset the House, and apprehended her, and carried her unto some of *Bishop Bonner's* Officers, who put her into *Lollards Tower*. This *Mrs. Angel* was great with child, and by reason of the fright, and a fall which she caught at her apprehension, she fell into Labour the next day, and was delivered in Prison, having no woman with her, to help her in her extremity. But within
ten

ten weeks after, Deputy *Swingfield*, and all the other three that came with him to assist him, all of them dyed.

129. There was one *Burton*, the Bayliff of *Crowland* in *Lincolnshire*, who in King *Edward* the Sixth's time, was a seemingly zealous Protestant: But when Queen *Mary* came to the Crown, he soon turned *Papist*, and endeavoured to stir up his Neighbours to introduce the *Mass*. They, not being forward in it, the *Sabbath* following this *Burton* went to the Church, and when the Curate was beginning to read the *English Service*, *Burton* went to him, saying, *Sirrah, will you not say Mass? Buckle yourself to it, you Knave, or by Gods Blood, I will sheath my Dagger in your Shoulders.* The poor Curate, being affrighted herewith, betook himself to read *Mass*: But shortly after, as this *Burton*, with one of his Neighbours, rode together upon the Fenbank, a Crow, (with her usual Note) flew over his head, and voiding her Excrements, it fell on his Nose, and ran down upon his Beard, and stank so horribly as set him a vomiting in a most violent manner: whereupon, hasting home, he betook himself to his Bed, but could eat nothing: And the Stink, and vomiting
still

still continuing, with fearful Oaths and Ex-
 ccrations, he cursed the Crow for thus
 poisoning of him; and so continued in ex-
 treme torments till he dyed.

130. There was one *James Abbes* burnt
 at *Bury* for Religion: As he went to the
 Stake, some poor people met him, beg-
 ging his Alms, and because he had no mo-
 ney to give them, he plucked of his Ap-
 parel, to his very shirt, and distributed it
 among them, exhorting them to be strong
 in the Lord: and (as faithful followers of
Jesus Chlist) to stand stedfast in the truth
 of the Gospel, which, (said he) *with Gods*
assistance, I will now, in your sight, seal
with my Blood. Whilest he was thus ex-
 horting them, there came one of the She-
 riffs men, who, hearing what he said,
 cryed out to the people most blasphemous-
 ly, saying, Good People, believe him not,
 for 'tis Heresie that he speaketh. And as
Abbes continued his godly Exhortations,
 so this wicked wretch belehed out his
 blasphemous Exclamations, till they came
 to the Stake. As soon as the Fire was
 kindled. Gods fearful vengeance fell up-
 on this wicked wretch; who, immediat-
 ly, in all the peoples sight, fell distracted,
 wherewith (a little before) he had
 charged

charged this Blessed Servant of *Jesus Christ*: And in a furious manner, pulling off his cloaths, he said, *Thus did James Abbes, the true Servant of God, who is saved, but I am damn'd.* And so he ran about the Town, still crying out, *James Abbes was a good man, and is saved, but I am damn'd.* Hereupon his Master caused him to be bound, clothed, and kept in a dark room, but as soon as the company was departed he tore off his cloths, still raging, and crying out, *James Abbes was the true Servant of God, and is saved, but I am damned:* And thus he continued till he dyed.

131. One *Dale*, a Promoter and Persecutor in *Queen Marys* days, was eaten up by Lice, and dyed miserably.

Alexander, the Keeper of *Newgate*, a merciless Enemy to those that lay there for Religion, and who used to go to *Bishop Bonner*, and his Officers, crying out, *Rid my Prison: Rid my Prison: I am too much pestered with these Hereticks:* By Gods just Judgment he fell into a grievous Disease: His Body was so much swoln that he was more like a Monster than a man, and his Entrails so rotted that none could endure the stink of him. And his Son *James*,
to

to whom he left a great Estate, soon consumed it, saying in a jeering manner, ill gotten, ill spent. At last, as he went through *Newgate-Market*, he fell down suddenly and dyed.

132. Also *John Peter*, *Alexander's* Son in Law, was an horrible Blasphemer, and used upon every occasion to say, *If it be not so, I pray God, I may rot before I dye.* He was also very cruel to the poor Servants of God in Prison. And God paid him home in his own coin: For according to his Imprecation, his Body rotted away by piece-meal till he dyed.

133. One *Lever* of *Brightwel* in *Barkshire*, jeeringly said, That he saw that ill-favoured Knave. *Latimer*, when he was burned at *Oxford*: and that he had Teeth like an Horse: But the Lord suffered not this profane scoff to go unpunished. For about that very same Hour wherein *Lever* spake those words, his Son hanged himself.

134. All ages have cause to admire, and adore the Exemplary Judgments of God poured out upon *Stephen Gardiner*, Bishop of *Winchester*, in *Queen Marys* days; who upon the day wherein Reverend *Latimer*, and Learned *Ridley* were to be burnt at
Oxford,

Oxford, (though some great Peers came to dine with him that day, yet) would not sit down to dinner, till one of his Servants about four a Clock in the Afternoon, coming Post from *Oxford*, brought word that Execution was done upon them. Then did he hast to Dinner, and was very merry, but ere he had eaten many bits, a sudden stroke of Gods hand fell upon him, so that he was carried immediately to his Bed, in which he continued for fifteen days in intollerable anguish and torments, rotting above ground, during all which time he could void nothing that he received, neither by Stool, nor Urine, his Tongue also hung out of his mouth swoln, and black, and so he languished and pined away in great anguish and misery.

135. King *James* the Fifth of *Scotland*, by the instigation of the *Popish* Clergy, was a great Persecutor of the Truth that then brake forth in that Kingdom: and for that end he gave Commission to Sir *James Hamilton*, natural Brother to the Earl of *Arran*, who was his Treasurer, to call, and convent all that were suspected of *Heresie*, and to inflict upon them the punishment, which, after tryal, they should be found to deserve: In Execution of which Com-

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mission he was most fierce and cruel, not sparing some that were of his near Kindred. But when he was in his greatest heighth, and made it his work to suppress the Gospel, one of his own Friends, whom he pursued upon the account of Religion, accused him of Treason, and notwithstanding the mediation of the *Popish* Clergy for him, as their greatest Patron, he was arraigned, condemned, executed, and quartered in the streets of *Edenburg*.

This King *James* also was heard to say, that none of that way should expect any favour at his hands, nay, nor his own Sons if they should be found guilty. But shortly after, War breaking forth with *England*, he found his Nobility averse to those Incurfions which he intended to make into *England*, which much vexed him. These thoughts, and some fearful Visions which he had by Night, terrified him exceedingly. For at *Linlithgow*, on a night as he slept, it seemed to him that *Thomas Scot*, Justice Clerk, came unto him, with a company of Devils, crying, *Worth the day that ever I knew thee, or thy Service: For serving thee against God and his Servants, I am now adjudged to Hell torments.* Hereupon awaking, he called

for

for Lights, and told his Servants what he had heard and seen. The next morrow, by the light of day, news was brought him of the death of the said Justice Clerk, which fell out just at the same time when the King had this Vision, and almost in the same manner: For he dyed in great horror, often reiterating those words, *By the righteous Judgment of God, I am condemned.* And this manner of his death, answering so exactly to the Kings Dream made it the more terrible.

The King also had another Dream in the same place a few nights after, which did more affright him. Whilest he lay sleeping, he thought that Sir *James Hamilton* foresaid, came unto him with a naked Sword in his Hand, and therewith cut off both his Arms; threatening to return within a short time, and to deprive him of his life. With this he awaked, and as he lay musing what this Dream should import, news was brought him of the death of his two Sons, *James*, and *Arthur*, the one dying at *S. Andrews*, the other at *Strivling*, at one and the very same hour. The next year, which was 1542. being overwhelmed with grief, he dyed at *Falkland* in the two and thirtieth year of his

Age. A little before he dyed, word was brought him that his Queen was delivered of a Daughter; whereupon he brake forth into a Passion, saying: *It came with a Lass, (meaning the Crown) and will go with a Lass. Fie upon it.*

136. One Friar Campbell in Scotland did bitterly rail upon that man of God, Mr. Patrick Hamilton whilest he was burning at S. Andrews: to whom Mr. Hamilton said with much earnestness: *Thou wicked man, thou knowest the contrary, and hast sometime made a Profession of the truth: I appeal thee to answer it before the Judgment Seat of Christ:* A few days after Campbell fell sick, and in great horror of Conscience dyed distracted.

137. Anno 1568. There was in Brabant one Peter Coulogne, a godly man, who, by his Popish Adversaries was cast into Prison, and his Maid-servant daily carried him his Food, confirming and comforting him out of the word of God as well as she was able; for which they imprisoned her also. Not long after Peter was put to the torment of the Rack, which he endured patiently. After him the Maid was fetch'd to be racked, whereupon, she said; *My Masters wherefore will ye put me to this torture, seeing I have*

have no way offended you? If it be for my Faith-sake, ye need not torment me: For, as I was never ashamed to make a Confession hereof, no more will I now be at this present before you; but will if you please freely shew you my mind therein. Yet for all this they would have her to the Rack: whereupon she again said, If I must needs suffer this pain, pray you give me leave to call upon my God first. This they assented to; and whilest she was fervently pouring out her Soul unto God by Prayer, one of the Commissioners was surpris'd with such fear and terror that he fell into a swoon, out of which he could never be recovered, by which means the poor Maid escaped rack-
ing.

138. In the Reign of King Henry the Second of France, there was a godly Tailor condemned to be burnt for Religion, and some about the King would needs persuade him to be present, and to see the Execution himself: And God gave the Tailor such strength and courage in the fire as astonished the King to behold it: And the poor Tailor, having espied the King in a window where he sat, fixed his Eyes steadfastly upon him, as they were never off, and the King was thereby constrained to

leave the window, and to retire into his Chamber, and was so affected therewith, that he confessed the shadow of the Taylor followed him whither soever he went, and for many Nights after he was so terrified with the Apparitions of the Taylor, that he protested with an Oath, that he would never hear, nor see any more of those *Lutherans* burned.

139. In the late Rebellion, and Persecution of Ireland, *John Nicholson*, and *Anne* his wife were received into the Protection of one *Fitz-Patrick*, who would have persuaded them to change their Religion and to go to *Mass*: But they professed that before they would do that, they would dye upon the Swords point. Then he laboured to prevail with the woman to burn her Bible, but she said, that before she would do it, she would dye the death: whereupon the *Sabbath* morning following, they were both of them cruelly murdered: But he that acted that villany, was so tormented in Conscience: and dogged with their Apparitions, that he pined away and dyed.

140. In the late *Irish* Massacre, wherein the bloody *Papists* spared none of what Age, Sex, or quality soever; O! how visibly did the Judgments of God follow them?

them? And for that savage Blood-shed, gave them Blood to drink in great measure: For *Mac-Guir Mac-Mahun*, and Sir *Philem Oneal*, being taken Prisoners, were publickly executed. Most of the rest were consumed by the Sword, either in their own Countrey, or in Foreign parts, and their spirits were generally so debased, and their courage emasculated, that a few *English*, or *Scottish* Soldiers would chase multitudes of them; and Gods Judgments did so eminently follow them, that within a few years most of that cruel Generation were rooted out.

Of Gods Judgments upon Persecutors in Germany, Spain, and France.

141. The Electoral House of *Saxony*, upon the devesting of that brave and pious Prince *John Frederick*, the true Heir, by the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth, and the investing the younger House to usurp that Honour, hath ever since proved a greater Friend to the *Popish* Party, than to the purer Church of the *French*, and *Helvetick* Confession. *Maurice* that usurped the Dutchy and Electorate, upon the captivating of the said *John Frederick*, his Cousin, first

ruined the Princes of the *Smalcaldick* Union, to which himself had subscribed; and then (casting an ambitious eye upon the Empire it self:) broke his Faith with the Emperor that had raised him; and having patched up the defection by the help of *Ferdinand* of *Austria*, King of *Bohemia* (afterwards Emperor) he lastly perished by a violent death in a pitch'd Battel fought against his Fellow-Protestants. A just Judgment of God upon him.

142. *Charles* the Fifth, having obtained the Empire by the help and monies of our King *Henry* the Eighth, was the most potent Emperor that ever *Germany* had as long as he maintained the peace of Religion: But having yielded to the *Popes* instigations, and prospered a while in his intended extirpation of the Truth, he found at last by sad experience, what his brave, and valiant General [*Castaldus*] had foretold him, that these violent proceedings would in the end prove fatal to himself: For having first fled away at Midnight, in a cold and rainy season from *Onspurch*, for fear of the Protestant Army, he was afterward (instead of setting his Son *Philip* in his Imperial Throne, as he had intended)

forced

forced to surrender the Empire to his Brother *Ferdinand*, who diverse years before had entred into a secret League with the Protestant Princes of *Germany*, and so having lived a few years in a despised, and disconsolate condition, he at last ended his life most ingloriously in a Monastery.

143. His Son *Philip* the Second, King of *Spain*, the most inveterate Enemy of the Gospel that ever lived, did not only erect Shambles for Gods Saints in most of his large Dominions, by his bloody Inquisitors, but still aided the Rebels in *France*, *England*, and *Ireland* against their lawful Sovereigns, and plotted to invade all other Protestant Dominions in Christendom, so at last by one general Carriage of them all, he and his holy Father the *Pope*, might have shared the Christian World by a double Monarchy, of the Church and Empire between them. But did this bloody Prince prosper in these his ambitious and cruel Designs? Nothing less. For what got he by his invading *France* by Land, and *England*, and *Ireland* by Sea, and by his large Pensions conferred upon the Traitors and secret Enemies of either States? Truly nothing. For having wasted about thirty millions of Money upon those

those fruitless Designs; and not gained a Foot of Land in any of those Realms, but the loss of a great part of the *seventeen Provinces*, with whom, having broken his Oath solemnly sworn to them in his Inauguration, they (by the Aid of *England* and *France*) freed themselves from his unjust Oppression and Tyranny.

Neither did the Divine Justice suffer him so to escape, but raised a Fire in his own House. For whereas he had Issue by his first Wife *Mary*, the Daughter of *John* the Third, King of *Portugal*, one only Son, called *Charles* (a Prince of admirable towardliness) He (during the Life of our Queen *Mary*, his second Wife) treated a Marriage for his Son with *Elizabeth*, the eldest Daughter of *Henry* the Second, King of *France*; during which Treaty, our Queen *Mary* dying, he himself married her who was designed for his Son (a Lady of admirable Beauty and Parts:) They often in private, never forgetting their old affections, lamented their unhappy loss each of other. The Son also detested his Fathers cruelty, and butchery by the merciless Inquisitors. This so enraged his jealous Father, that he imprison'd him, and delivered him over into the Inquisitors Hands,

Hands, by whom he was condemned, *Anno Christi*, 1568. and a few days after he sent to him to choose his own Death, who in a warm Bath caused his Veins to be opened, and so dyed. A while after (though she was great with child) he caused his Queen to drink a Cup of poison, which soon dispatched her.

144. King *Philip's* fourth Wife was *Anne*, the Daughter of *Mary*, the Empress, his own natural Sister, by whom he had Issue *Ferdinand* and *James*, both cut off by Death in their Infancy, and *Philip*, who being the only surviving Issue of this incestuous match, succeeded his Father in his Dominions, but not altogether in his cruelties.

145. *Rodulph* the Second, Emperor of *Germany*, not following the steps of the wife *Maximilian* his Father, but of the aforesaid *Philip* his Brother in Law, sought by all secret and hostile means to enervate, and root out Religion in the Empire: What got he by it, but to have Gods curse denounced in Scripture fulfilled upon him? *That the elder should serve the younger.* For *Matthias* the Arch-Duke of *Austria*, raising an Army in the year 1608. and joining his Forces with those of the oppressed Protestant

stants in *Bohemia*, hem'd up his Brother *Rodulph* in *Prague*, got the Kingdom of *Hungary* from him in present possession, and the Empire in reversion, leaving him nothing but the complement of Majesty, which he did not long survive, and could never revenge that affront.

146. We need not look into ancient Histories of Gods Judgments upon Heathen persecuting Emperors : we may see the sad successes of the Princes of the house of *Valois* in *France*. King *Henry* the Second of *France* was meanly married to *Katherine de Medices* (the Niece of *Pope Clement* the Seventh) during the Life of the *Dolphin* his elder Brother, who was afterwards poisoned. And *Francis* the first, his Father deceasing, he succeeded, and swayd the *French* Scepter for diverse years, with much Tranquility and happiness, till (loathing the Coiture of his Queen, unfit indeed for a Princes bed) he grew highly enamoured on *Piçavia* of *Valence*, a woman of exquisite Beauty, and good extraction, with whom he long after lived in continual Adultery, and was by her enticed to persecute and slay the Protestants, *Anno Ghristi* 1553. that so by the confiscation of their Lands and Goods, she might

might enrich her self, and her Kindred. This Persecution put a Period to all his former Victories, and the next year was followed with the loss of the City of *Seins* in *Italy* to the *Spaniard*: The Death of the old gallant General *Leo Strozzi* by a base hand, and the overthrow of his *French Army* by *James de Medices*.

147. *Anno Christi* 1556. The violence of persecution was again renewed against the Protestants, and the very next year after (as before) God again gave up the *French Army* to the slaughter of the *Spaniards* and *Dutch* at the Siege and Battel of *S. Quintins*, in which were above three thousand slain upon the place, and many of them men of note, and soon after the Town was taken by Storm: Also *Annis* Duke de *Memorancy* himself, the Constable of *France*: The Marshal of *S. Andrew*: the Duke of *Longevile*, *Gaspar de Coligne*, Earl of *Castilion* and Admiral of *France*, and a number others of the great Peers were all taken Prisoners. In sum, the loss and slaughter was so great, and fatal to the *French*, as it well-near equalled that Victory obtained by the Duke of *Bourbon* at the Battel of *Pavia* in *Italy* against *Francis* the first, his Father. Yet *Henry* the

the Second still shut his eyes against the cause of these losses, and having his heart cauterized by his Lusts, he not only caused the godly to be committed to the Flames, but himself would needs be a Spectator of their Torments as a pleasing sight, and had combined with *Philip* King of *Spain*, his new Son in Law, for the utter ruine and final subversion of *Geneva*.

Nay, but a few hours before his Death, *Anno* 1559. *Lodovick Faber*, and *Annas Burgus*, two Senators of *Paris*, because they had spoken a little freely in defence of the innocency and piety of the Protestants in the open Senate, were cast into Prison by his special Command, in the *Bastile* of the same City, by *Gabriel* Earl of *Mongomery*, one of the Captains of his Guard. And the persecution of all others of the same Profession grew so hot and furious: when the King *June* the nine and twentieth, the same year, running at Tilt with the very same Earl of *Mongomery*, and near the very *Bastile* where the said Senators were Prisoners, was struck with a splinter of *Mongomery's* Spear, through the Eye into his Brain, and never had the happiness to speak one word after, though he survived the wound a few days; Nor to acknowledge his

his former Lust and Cruelty.

148. And if we farther look to Gods Hand that followed this Prince in his Posterity, it will yet seem the greater miracle. For of five Sons that he had, all save one dyed without lawful Issue to survive them, and three of them by violent Deaths, and in his Posterity ended the *Valetian* Line, the Crown thereupon devolving to the Royal Branch of *Cleremont*, commonly called *Bourbon*, whom his Sons had most bitterly hated and persecuted. And of all his five Daughters, three dyed issueless, and the eldest (the Queen of *Spain* aforementioned) that had Issue was cut off by poison. Nay, his very Bastard Son, *Henry* of *Engolism*, a great Actor in the *Parisian* Massacre, perished also by the stab of *Philip Al-
tovit*, a *Florentine*, his old and mortal Enemy, *Anno Christi* 1586. during the Reign of *Henry* the Third, his Brother.

149. *Charles* the Ninth (third Son of the said *Henry* the Second) who succeeded his Brother *Francis* the Second, *Anno Christi* 1560. had he continued his Reign with as much Mercy and Wisdom as he began it, when he followed the grave and seasonable advise of *Michael Hospitalius*, his Chancellor, probably he had lived more virtuously

tuously and dyed less miserably. But he had scarce raigned two years in Peace and Plenty, when *Katherine de Medices*, his Mother (desiring to get the Regency into her own Hands by raising combustions in the Kingdom) perswaded this her Son to revive those Persecutions against the Protestants which his Father had begun. She also reconciled Her self to *Charles Lorainer*, Duke of *Guise*, whom a little before she had feared and hated, being a secret Enemy to *Lewis de Cleremont*, Prince of *Conde*. He and the Marshal of *S. Andrew* having gained *Annas Momorancy*, Constable of *France* to their party, they all conspired together for the ruine of the Truth. The Protestants in the mean time, seeing the King in his minority, held (as it were) captivated by this *Triumvirate*, took up Arms by the Queen-Mothers own instigation, to maintain the Kings Edict of Pacification, which was published *Anno Christi 1561*. commonly called, *The Edict of January*.

The year following, by the instigation of the said *Triumvirate*, not only the Queen-Mother, but *Anthony de Cleremont*, King of *Navar* also (who yet dyed a Protestant) was drawn on to assail those of the Religion

Religion with open force, they in the mean time filling the Queen-Mothers ear with these vain Flatteries, that she should soon see the utter ruine of all the *Hereticks* in *France*: From which time that goodly, rich, peaceable, and flourishing Kingdom, for almost forty years together (some short pauses excepted) was filled with Cruelties, Ravages, Ravishments, Murthers, Battles, Fires, Slaughters, and all other calamities that attend a civil War: In the end of all which, the Protestants being increased in their strength and numbers, obtained a more firm and advantageous peace than ever they had before: whereas those three incendiaries who had been the Authors of all these miseries, perished within a few years after, by the just Judgment of God in the very act when they were pursuing the godly party. For the Marshal of *S. Andrew* was slain in the Battle of *Dreux*: *Annus de Momrancy* under the very walls of *Paris*, and *Francis Lorainer*, Duke of *Guise*, was pistoled by *John Poltrot* whilst he besieged *Orleans*.

King *Charles* seeing that by open force he could not eradicate and destroy the truth, nor root out the Professors of it, about two years before the hellish Massacre be-

gun at *Paris*, and prosecuted (to the perpetual infamy of *France*) in diverse other Cities, held a secret Council in the Castle of *Blois*, with *Katherine de Medices*, his Mother, *Alexander*, and *Hercules* (called also *Henry* and *Francis*) his Brothers, and *Henry Lorainer*, Heir to the said Duke *Francis* aforementioned, by what means they might best draw the Protestants into their toil to murder and destroy them. The same Council was again held in the house of *Hieronimo de Gondy* at *S. Clou*, and the time and order of the bloody Marriage Banquet to be served in at the Nuptials of the King of *Navar* with the Lady *Margaret*, the *French* Kings Sister, almost in the same manner and order as it was afterwards put in execution on *Bartholomews* Day, *Anno Christi* 1572. In which were most inhumanely murdered, of men, women, and children (many also of them being great and honourable Personages) of either Sex about thirty thousand. And while the Duke of *Guise* was prosecuting that most inhumane Butchery, a Cabinet Council was held in the Queen-Mothers Chamber, whether it were not necessary that both the Duke, and the rest of his Family who were then present, should not be dispatched

at

at the same time in that disorderly tumult.

King *Charles* himself never saw good day after this bloody Massacre, though the *Court-Sycophants* had promised him that it should prove the first happy day of his absolute Monarchy. For though he had been long drenched in Lust (a sin seldom separated from a Persecutor) by his ordinary Adultery with a mean Wench of *Orleance*, of whom he begat *Charles* of *Engolism*, afterwards Earl of *Auvern*: And though he had been trained up by his Mother to see the slaughter of Beasts; and ever in his Chases had been accustomed to bath his hands in the Blood of the slain Game (which might have served to stupify his Conscience, as they did inflame his fierce and cruel nature, yet) a very stinging remorse in his Conscience, did ever pursue and haunt him after that merciless slaughter, brought about, chiefly by his own swearing and forswearing, (by which the King of *Navar*, and the Admiral *Coligni* were deceived) His eyes ever rolled up and down uncertainly in the Day-time with fear and suspicion, and his sleep was usually interrupted in the night with dismal Dreams and Apparitions (like

our King *Richard* the Third of *England* after he had murthered his two Nephews in the Tower) Nay, though he survived that Massacre not fully two years, yet had he in that time plotted the death of the said *Henry*, Duke of *Guise*, and the removal of the Queen-Mother, and her Instruments from the Helm of State : But as he, a little before the Massacre had poisoned that incomparable Princess for Learning and Piety, *Joan*, Queen of *Navar* : So did his Mother, or the Duke of *Guise* (by way of prevention, or anticipation) minister to him his fatal sharp *Phisick*, of which (after many and grievous torments) he deceased upon *Whitsunday*, *Anno Christi* 1574. being not full twenty five years old.

150. The Queen-Mother, the Kings two Brethren, the Cardinal, and the Duke of *Guise*, that had not only joined with him in his Persecution, but encouraged him to it, they still survived, and for ought men saw, were firmly settled in Peace and Prosperity : Though *Guise* might have taken warning by the Death of *Claude*, Duke of *Anmal*, his Brother, slain with a Musket-Bullet from the walls of *Rochel*,

as

as he lay in Siege before it, *Anno Christi*
1573.

151. Henry his Brother, who succeeded King *Charles*, was not long before chosen King of *Poland*, where he then was; but hearing of the Death of his Brother, he clandestinely stole away from that Kingdom to return to *France*. In his return the good Emperor *Maximilian* the Second, and the *Venetian* State, earnestly advised him to maintain the former Edicts of Pacification inviolably, and not force the Consciences of men in matters of Religion; Of the same Opinion also were all his wisest Councillors, who saw plainly that the encreasing of the Protestants was the only means now left under Heaven to draw the Pope and his Conclave to yield some Reformation of the Church, which it needed exceedingly. But his Mother advised him by all means to root out the Professors of the truth by Fire and Sword. And others there were of loose and *Atheistical* Lives, as Henry Duke of *Guise*; *Lewis* the Cardinal of *Guise*; *Renalt Villoclare* (A man, saith the incomparable Monsieur *de Thou*, fatally preferr'd to be an attendant upon this King by his Mother) and diverse others, who perswaded the King to break the afore-

said Edicts for Pacification, and never to sheath his Sword till he had utterly ruined all the Protestants in *France*: And the King, being of a weak, and degenerate Spirit, the House of *Guise* (being the Arch-enemies of the Gospel) became at length so potent, and triumphed so notoriously over the impotency of the King, that at last they forced him to seek to those very Protestants for support, against whom he had taken a Solemn Oath for their utter destruction.

Infinite almost were the Treasures which he spent upon his Minions and Pleasures (His expenses upon his Dogs only, amounted in those times to twenty thousand pounds yearly at the least) but most was exhausted in the prosecution of his Wars against the Protestants.

152. *Guise*, and his Faction now grown strong, and assured of support from King *Philip* the Second of *Spain*, after he had expelled his King out of *Paris*, and heaped a world of other insolent affronts upon him, was drawn by him, *Anno Christi* 1588. to the Assembly then held at *Blois*. He came thither with his Brother *Lewis Lorainer*, Cardinal of *Guise*, and *Charles*, Prince of *Ionvile*, his Son, upon the same Royal Assurance

urance of safety, with which *Charles* the Ninth, had (by his advise) deceived the Protestants before the abhorred Massacre in the year 1572. But during this Assembly this Duke of *Guise* was slain, against the *Publick Faith* given him, not only within the Castle of *Blois*, but in that very room, wherein sixteen years before he had advised the bloody Massacre of *Paris* to be executed. Two circumstances also do add much horror to the punishment it self: One was that he was but newly risen from the bed of his adulterate Lust, having not been able before this night, to conquer the chastity of a Gentlewoman that waited on the Queen-Mother: and therefore was so eager in reaping the fruits of his long Siege, that he came not to the Council Chamber, till he was oft sent for, and even then scarcely ready: The other was in the manner of his first wound, which was given him in his Throat, and immediately caused the Blood so abundantly to stream out of his Mouth, as he never had time so much as to call upon God for mercy or forgiveness, but spent his last minute in endeavouring to revenge himself upon his Murderers.

153. A while after the Cardinal of *Guise*,

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his

his Brother (who had been a great Gamester at Cards and Dice ; perished also in the same Castle of *Blois* by a violent Death. *Katherine de Medices*, the Queen-Mother, who had been the chief cause for thirty years together of the shedding of so much innocent Blood, being present at the same time in the said Castle, stormed secretly that so great an action should be entred into, and effected without her advice : And when she heard that *Charles Lorainer*, Duke of *Main* was escaped, (being the younger Brother to the murdered Duke of *Guise*) she presaged to the King her Son, the sad Issue of that rash attempt, which he (as it seems) interpreting to be rather the expression of her wishes than her fears ; and having by many woful experiences, seen the effects of her revengful *Italian* Spirit, took a course to pacify her wrath : For not long after , she there ended her unhappy Life, by poison (saith *Elias Reusner*) in the same Castle also, where she held the first secret and bloody Council for the execution of the aforesaid bloody Massacre. *Francis* her youngest Son dyed before her, *June* the tenth, *Anno* 1584. in the one and thirtieth year of his Age, of a violent poison, probably ministred to him by some of the
Hispaniolized

Hispaniolized Guisards, so that it caused very much Blood to issue out of his Body in several places, the sight of which purple streams might well call upon him to remember with what inhumane Pride he trampled upon the bloody streets of *Paris* in the great slaughter committed upon Gods Saints and Martyrs about twelve years before.

154. There now only remained *Henry* the Third, the *French* King, alive, of all the first contrivers, and principal Executioners of that inhumane Massacre, which no Age, no Time, no Action of the most Barbarous Nations of the world could ever parallel, till that horrid Massacre of the bloody *Irish* upon the *English* Protestants in the year 1641. *October* 23^d wherein above one hundred and fifty thousand perished in one of the four Provinces of that Kingdom, after the most savage and barbarous manner that ever was read of.

155. *Charles Lorainer*, Duke of *Main* was presently upon the death of his Brother made General of the *Holy League*, (as they stiled it) And *Paris* it self, and in a manner all the *Popish* Cities beyond the *Loir* giving up their Names and Forces to that Faction, supported from *Rome* by Pope
Sixtus

Sixtus the Fifth, and from *Spain* by *Philip* the Second.

156. When the King saw that neither his acting the *Monk*, with the *Flagellators*, nor his playing the Devil against the Protestants, could secure him from a speedy ruine by the violent hands of Rebels; He sent to the victorious King of *Navar* (his Brother in Law) and to the Protestant Army, before whose known valour the *Popish* Forces hastened back from the *Loyer* to the *Seine*; *Henry* the Third pursued them, and pitched his Royal Pavilion at *S. Clou*, not far from the Gates of *Paris*. But his former cruelties, and persecutions of the godly, were doubtless the hinderances of his new expected Victories, and the Divine Providence so ordered it that in the very place where the last resolution was taken by himself, his Mother, his Brethren, and others for the speedy Execution of that brutish Massacre, about seventeen years before, nay in the very same House of *Jerom de Gondy*, and in the very same Room and Chamber (saith *John de Serres*) was murdered by *James Clement*, a *Jesuited Monk*, Anno Christi 1589. and in the nine and thirtieth year of his Age.

This

This *Assassination* was promoted by Pope *Sixtus* the Fifth, by the seditious Sermons of *Jesuits*, *Priests*, and *Friars*, and by the persecution of *Katherine Mary*, Duchefs of *Mompensier*, Sister of the slain Duke of *Guise*, who was so horribly transported with malice against the Protestants, and with desire of revenge upon the King, as she prostituted her Body to that *Jesuited Goat*, to encourage him the more to that horrid murther, and by that means to stupefy and harden his Soul by his filthy Lust, that it might not startle at any other wickedness whatsoever. Yet as this King some Months before his Death had altered his former bloody resolution against the Protestants; so did the Divine Providence at his Death afford him some hours of Repentance, after the bloody knife had been sheathed in his Belly; in which time he acknowledged his sin, and his error in having been so long miss-lead by his ambitious and malicious Counsellors, and his sin in having persecuted his Protestant Subjects, and for having enforced the Conscience of many to submit to *Popery* against the known Truth by threats and cruelty.

157. Our Queen *Mary* began her Reign
with

with the breach of her *Publick Faith*. For whereas the Crown was set upon her head by the Gentry and Commons of *Sussex*, (although they knew her to be a *Papist* (which shews that the godly Protestants, whatsoever is suggested to the contrary by Lustful, Prophane, and *Popishly* affected Persons, are the best Subjects that any Sovereign can be happy in) yet she, in one of her first Acts of Council, took order for their restraint, long before the *Mass* and *Latine Service* were generally received in *London*, and caused that Diocess to taste the sharpest Inquisition, and Persecution that raged during her Reign, which was happily shortened by her Husbands contemning her Person, and her Enemies conquering her Dominions, neither of which she had power either to recover, or revenge: So that though she dyed not by any outward violence, yet was her end as inglorious and miserable, as her Reign had been turbulent and bloody. She might have taken warning by the sudden, and immature Death of King *James* the Fifth of *Scotland*, her Cousin German, who, raising a persecution there, against his Loyal and innocent Subjects that were Protestants, *Anno Christi* 1539. burning some, exiling, and imprisoning

soning others, and forcing many to blaspheme, in abjuring the known truth; and all by advice and procurement of *James Beaton*, Arch-Bishop of *S. Andrews*, and *David Beaton*, Abbot of *Arbroth*, his Brother, never saw good day after: For two brave young Princes his Sons, were the year following, cut off by untimely ends in their Cradles: Wars to his great disadvantage and loss were raised between him and our King *Henry* the Eighth, his Uncle, and all things fell out so cross to his haughty and vast mind as that it hastened his Death, which fell out *Anno Christi* 1542. See more of him before.

Many also are the Examples of Gods severe, but righteous Judgments of God upon *Popish* persecuting Prelates, whereof you have store of instances in my two *Martyrologies*, and in my two Vollumes of *Examples*: I shall content my self for the present with two or three, which though briefly set down there, yet here more largely.

158. *Thomas Arundal*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, having been the successful Traytor, by the help of his Reverend Fellow-Bishops, to establish *Henry* the Fourth in the Throne of King *Richard* the Second,
his

his Liege Lord, and Cousin German, pressed the new King (whose broken Title needed the supportments of his Prelates) to use his temporal Sword for the destruction of the Disciples of *John Wickliff*, whose numbers at that time were so encreased that they even filled the Kingdom: The King assented. and having by their cruel instigation, shed the blood of many of Gods Saints, his Reign proved neither long nor prosperous.

159. King *Henry* the Fifth. his Son, a brave and marshal Prince, succeeding him, the Protestants began to meet more publicly, and to profess the Truth more openly than before. The Arch-Bishop thereupon renews his former Suit to the Son, as he had before successfully pressed upon the Father. In particular, he first aimed at the destruction of Sir *John Oldcastle* (See his Life in my second Volume of Lives) who had most affronted him. He, by reason of his great Alliances, and the favour of his King, who called him *His Knight*, might have expected exemption from their Tyranny: But they prevailed with the King (as saith Arch-Bishop Parker) *Rex virum clarum, sibi que familiarissimum, Episcoporum potestati, & carnificine permisit*

permissit: The King gave up this famous man, and who was dear to himself, to the power, and destruction of the Bishops: And yet it pleased God that he outlived this persecuting Arch-Prelate two years at least. For the Arch-Bishop having murdered many godly Saints in King *Henry* the Fourths time, and being a great stickler in state affairs, having long before procured himself to be made Lord Chancellour of *England*, and lastly (in a *Synod* held by himself at *Rocheſter*) having forbidden the reading of the Scriptures in *English*, and limited Preachers, under an heavy censure, what they should treat of in the Pulpit, was soon cut off himself by the immediate hand of God, after he had condemned that warlike Kinght, Sir *John Old-Castle*, Lord *Cobham*, before he could see him executed. For his Tongue was so swoln, and benumbed that he could neither swallow, nor speak, some days before his Death: It being (saith one) the just Judgment of God upon him (and may be a warning to all other wicked *Popish Prelates*) that as he had muzled up the mouths of Preachers, and kept the Scriptures from the knowledge of the people, being their spiritual food. So he should neither be able to swallow

swallow nor speak, from that very minute that this Judgment fell upon him, and so he dyed within a few days after, in great torment, and extremity, by a languishing silence and famishment.

A later Example we have in the admirable punishment of *James Beton*, Archbishop of *S. Andrews* in *Scotland*, who was also a member of the purpurated *Conclave* at *Rome*. He had for diverse years been an inveterate Enemy to the Gospel, and the Professors of it in that Kingdom under King *James* the Fifth: And after his Death, taking the advantage of the infancy of the Princess *Mary*, the Hereditary Queen of that Realm, he thought it a work worthy of himself, to double die his Purple Robes in the Blood of the Saints: And to make a full and clear way for that his sanguinary Project, he forged a *Will* of the deceased King, whereby he was established the chief Regent there, during the young Ladies incapacity to Reign: From which yet, his false play being discovered, he was removed, and for a while imprisoned: Yet was he no sooner delivered, but he presently endeavoured to raise a new and a fatal war between *England* and *Scotland*, and to root out the Professors of
the

the Truth by a violent and bloody Persecution. And among others whom he cited, imprisoned, or exiled in the year 1545. he seized upon Mr. *George Wiseheart* (a very eloquent and learned Preacher) who by the *Latin* Writers of that age is called *Sophocardi*, and contrary to their own *Papish* Canons, adjudged him to present death himself, which is never done, except by the hellish Inquisition of *Spain*, but by delivering the Martyrs into the power of the Civil-Magistrate; And in his Court before the Castle of *S. Andrews*, caused that bloody Sentence to be executed, the said Mr. *Wiseheart* being first strangled, and his Body afterwards burnt to Ashes; The Cardinal in the mean time had a Chamber prepared for him, with Carpets and Cushions in the Windows, out of which he was a Triumphant Spectator of this godly mans Martyrdom: From which window he departed, not more delighted, than (as himself thought) secured; and presently he began to fortify his Castle against all Assaults.

But Gods Judgment from Eternity awarded against him, for this later, as well as former cruelties exercised upon his faithful Servants, slept not. For within a few

H

weeks

weeks after, the Cardinal having falsified his Promise to the Lord *Norman Lesly*, Son of the Earl of *Rothsay*, a zealous *Romanist*; He upon the thirteenth day of *May*, the same year, with about fourteen resolute Gentlemen in his company, entred the said Castle of *S. Andrews*, where the Cardinal lay (having had a whore with him all that night) and having first assured himself of all within, and the Gates without, he slew the bloody Prelate by his Bed-side without Law or Justice, who had but a little before, most unjustly condemned and murdered the aforesaid Mr. *Wiseheart*, and being willing to expose the dead Carcass of that cruel Persecutor (all weltring and besmeared with blood) unto the view of the People (who abhorred his Butcheries, and rejoiced at his fall) casually they laid it along, to be seen of all men in that very window, out of which a little before, leaning at his ease upon rich Cushions, he had proudly beheld the death of that precious Martyr.

161. Its very observable which Historians take notice of, that generally the greatest Persecutors are most drenched in the sin of uncleanness, and *Epicurism*. What was *Escovedo*, that great Instrument of the King of *Spain's* cruelties against the Evangelical

gelical Party in the *Low-Countries*, but a very Lump of Lust, which in the end proved fatal to him?

162. *Peter Espinac*, A Bishop of *Lions* in *France*, was a great Persecutor, and one that lived in incest with his own Sister.

163. *John* Arch-Bishop of *S. Andrews* in *Scotland*, spent the greatest part of the Revenues of his See, and the seizure of the Protestants Estates (whose mortal Enemy he was) upon his Whores and Revelings.

164. The Cardinal of *Granvels* Veneries were so manifest and numerous, as when *Anno Christi* 1574. the Kingdom of *Tunis*, and the strong Fort of *Gulette* (formerly esteemed impregnable) were won by the *Turks*; the *Spaniards* made a jest of it, & said openly, *That the Cardinals Breeches, had occasioned that loss*, meaning thereby, that King *Philip* the Second, relying chiefly upon his advice in that, and in most of the rest of his important affairs, the Cardinals Lusts so took him up, that he had not leisure to advise the King for the best.

165. Cardinal *Beton* (aforementioned) wallowed at home with pollution among his Harlots, and raged abroad with the blood and slaughter of the innocent Servants of Christ.

166. In that Hellish Massacre on *S. Bartholomew's* Day, in *Paris* it self: The Murderers there, were for the most part, brutish and lustful Soldiers, or profane Varlets of the scum of the City, and though their Leaders were more noble, yet less virtuous. The Duke of *Guise*, and *Amale*, *Albert*, *Gondy*, Earl of *Rets*, *Tavanne*, and others of them that were bred up in Lust, Revellings, and all manner of Debaucheries.

167. The next place that came nearest to the cruelties exercised at *Paris*, was the City of *Lions*, where the numbers of the slain and massacred was so great, that their Bodies being thrown into the river *Rhodanus*, or *Rosne*, stained and corrupted the water, the violence of which stream, carrying them down by heaps to *Ternou*, (where the Inhabitants, not knowing what they were, but fearing that it proceeded from invasion by Enemies, and Robbers, assembled themselves in Arms together for their mutual defence.) The chief Ring-leaders, and Abettors of which Butchery (Monsieur de *Thou*, a Papist, yet an incomparable Historian, confesseth) to have been *Boidon*, *Mormieu*, and *Clou*, three of the most wicked, and vilest Varlets that a Kingdom could harbour; which *Boidon*

was

was afterwards executed at *Clermont* in *Auvergne*: And if *Mormieu* escaped a shameful end, yet surely he deserved it as well as his Fellow Persecutor, having before (as *Semanus* confesseth) procured the murder of his own Father?

At *Tholous* also, a few days after, a great slaughter of the godly was committed; not by the better sort of Citizens, or sober, or morally virtuous *Papists*; but by one *Turry*, and a number of other infamous, and lewd persons like himself, who joined themselves together for the effecting of that bloody execution.

The like Villany was perpetrated and done at the great City of *Roan* in *Normandy*, by one *Maronie*, a most infamous Ruffian, and a great many of other base Varlets, who flocked to him as to their chief Ringleader.

168. But in none of them were these two hellish sins of Adultery and Blood more eminently coupled together than in *Paygillard*, the Master Butcher at *Angiers*, who having long continued in the sin of Adultery, was at last enticed by his Harlot, to murder his own wife.

169. In *France*, after this barbarous and cruel Massacre, the eighth day of *November* following, there appeared a dreadful Comet,

cerning which, a Learned Protestant, presently after published an elaborate *Poem*, wherein he presaged, that it was Gods Herald or Messenger to denounce his Judgment quickly to ensue upon that Kingdom for their late inhumane Butcheries. These Verses were scarcely come abroad, when there suddenly broke out in *Poictou*, a new, dreadful, and before unknown Disease, commonly called *the PoictovinCholick*, which miserably wasted that goodly Kingdom for above thirty years after. This Disease was accompanied with many extreme pains and torments, not only in the outward Parts of the Body, but also in the inward and Vitals, insomuch as it drew on diverse horrid Convulsions, and in many, blindness before it killed them. The strange Original, the hidden nature, and those unparallel'd torments which it produced, sometimes resembling the very stabs, and gashes made with Swords, and Ponyards, gave all impartial judgments just ground to conclude that it was the finger of God himself in punishing the merciless Murthers of his Dear Saints.

170. But though the brutish, goatish *Papists* were so cruel and inhumane, yet others there were of more moral and moderate

rate

rate Principles, who in their very Souls abhorred and detested those barbarous practices. Monsieur *de Thou* in his unparalleled History tells us, that himself was about nineteen years old when that horrible and Hellish Massacre was committed in *Paris* on *S. Bartholomews Day*, which fell out that year on the *Lords Day*, and did in his very soul abhor the cruelty and savageness thereof, when in his passage through the streets to *Mattins* that Morning, he met with diverse Villains, dragging along the dead Body of *Hierom Grolet*, late Governour of *Orleanco*, all weltring with gashly wounds in his own Blood: At which sight his Heart relenting, and mourning inwardly, not daring to shed tears publicly, he hastened home to the House of *Christopher de Thou*, his Father, who at that time was the chief President of the Parliament in *Paris*, there freely to deplore that execrable Butchery; as did also the said *Christopher*, his Father.

171. *Vidus Faber Pibratius*, *John Merviller*, *Belleuren*, all eminent men, with all the judicious, and morally virtuous *Papists* in that City, did Christianly hide, and so preserved many Protestants from a wretchless massacring. Nay, *Arman Guntald*, the old Marshal *Biron* (Father of *Charles*, Duke of

Biron, that was beheaded in King *Henry* the Fourth's time) when the Deputies of *Rochel* came to him, some few weeks after that bloody Execution, to treat of a peaceable accomodation of their affairs, he shed many tears in their presence upon his execrating the Authors of that Cruelty, and acknowledged the great Mercy of God to him that he neither knew of it, nor had any hand in it.

At the City of *Lions* also, where the inhumanity of the Murtherers almost equalled that of *Paris*, *Mandelot* the Governor there, did his best to have prevented it, and in his Heart (with many other grave and sober Citizens of the *Romish* Religion) utterly detested it. And when the slaughtered Bodies that were tumbled into the River of *Rosne*, were carried down with the stream to *Tornou*, *Valence*, *Vienne*, and *Burg*, contiguous to the same River, the *Papists* there, generally detested the cruelty thereof: And at *Arles*, where for want of Springs, and Ponds they had most use of that River water; yet they so much abhorred that Butchery, as they would neither drink thereof, nor yet eat any of the Fish taken therein, for diverse days after: And generally in all *Provence*, those of the *Romish* Religion drew the mangled Bodies out of the water, and with great humanity interred them.

172. Monsieur *Carragie*, a Noble Gentleman, who was Governour of the great City of *Roan* in *Normandy*, did likewise oppose the Massacres there to the utmost of his power. As did also *James Benedict Larga-baston*, the Prime Senator of *Burdeaux*, who thereby became himself in danger to have been slain by those seditious Varlets, who at first had been stirred up to commit those outrages by the seditious Sermons of a lustful *Jesuite*, called *Eminund Auger*.

173. *Claudus*, Earl of *Tende*, a Descendant of the illustrious House of *Savoy*, Governour of *Provence*, Monsieur *de Gordes*, Governour of *Daulphany*, Monsieur *Sauter-ran*, Governour of *Auvergne*, and *Francis* Duke of *Memorancy*, absolutely refused to suffer any Massacres to be committed in such places as were under any of their Governments: So as the *Rochellers* in their Declaration set out the same year, do acknowledge that all such *Romanists*, who had but any humanity left in them, did in their Hearts abhor, and with their Mouths detest those abominable outrages and hellish cruelties.

174. And as the soberer and modester sort of *Papists* abhorred such brutishness, so also they dissuaded from the same.

That

That Noble Gentleman *David Hamilton* gave this advice to *James*, Earl of *Arran*, then Regent of *Scotland* Anno 1545. when *Cardinal Beton* would have perswaded him to have joined with him in the Persecution and Slaughter of the godly in that Kingdom: I cannot but wonder, said he, that you should give up the innocent Servants of God, against whom no Crime is objected, but the Preaching of the Gospel, into the hands and power of men most infamous for Lust, Cruelty, and all other wickedness; which in the mean time those very Enemies of the Truth themselves cannot deny that the lives of such as profess this Doctrine which they so hate, are full of integrity and virtue: And therefore although the profane and bloody Prelates could never be drawn to pity Gods Children, much less to love them for their piety and innocency (being therein more inhumane than diverse of the Heathen Emperors themselves, who, upon the information of the virtuous and harmless deportment of the Christians, by their Governours of Provinces, caused their Persecutions to be slackened and ceased). Yet diverse Princes and moderate Pontificians, have been moved by the upright and honest lives of Gods Children to further their Liberty of Conscience, and to abhor the cruelties which other Papists have practised upon them.

175. *Maximilian* the Emperour, son of *Ferdinand* the Second, and *Francis* the First, the *French* King were hence perswaded to grant unto their own subjects freedom of Conscience.

176. The Earl of *Egmont*, and *Horn* (though zealous *Papists*) laboured with the *Dutchess* of *Parma*, that the *Low-Country* *Protestants* might be free from *Fines*, *imprisonments*, and all other manner of *Persecutions* in respect of *Religion*.

177. Under *Francis* the Second, the *French* King *Anno Christi* 1560. by the excellent and learned speeches of *Charles Mavillack*, Arch-Bishop of *Vienne*, and *John de Monlu*, Bishop of *Valence* freely spoken before the King himself in behalf of the *French* *Protestants*, all *Persecution* against them was restrained. The said Bishop among other particulars, affirming boldly, that a great encrease of the *Sectaries* proceeded from the ignorance and evil lives of the *Bishops*, who having laid aside the care of their *Flocks*, had, for many years made it their business to enhance their *Fines*, and *Rents*, and to live deliciously, and loosely; so as there were sometimes forty of them seen at once together, wasting their time in *Luxury* and idleness in *Paris*: the care of their
Churrches

Churches being in the mean time turned over to young and ignorant Fellows. And so the Bishops becoming blind and useles; the *Parish Priests* also, following the Example of their Diocesans, were only intent upon spoiling and vexing their people about their Tithes, but were wholly unskilful and negligent in preaching to them: And that therefore it was no wonder, though diverse of the Nobility as well as of the common people, did so readily hearken to new Opinions, and Doctrines.

The same Counsel, that the Conscience ought not to be forced, nor any to be persecuted for matters of Religion meerly, did *Michael Hospitalius*, Chancellour of France, give unto *Charles* the Ninth, the same year that he succeeded to the Crown, after the death of the said *Francis*, his Brother.

178. By these foregoing Examples we may plainly see, that their self-love, and wallowing in all manner of sensuality, is the great cause of their hatred to the godly, whose lives and principles oppose their wickedness and errors. The persecutions of the *Arrians* against the *Orthodox*, exceeded the cruelty of the Heathen Emperours, but this of the *Romanists* far surpasseth and exceeds them both being joined together.

179. Pope

179. Pope Paul the Third, left this bloody Legacy to his Conclave when he dyed *Anno Christi* 1359. (as is testified by Mounſieur *de Thou*) For having called di-verse of the Cardinals into his Bed-chamber, he exhorted them by all means to continue and maintain the Office of the Inquisition, as the only means left upon earth to establish the *Romane* Religion.

180. It may cause wonder in any serious man to consider that amongst the *Turks*, *Jews*, *Indians*, yea, and the *Papists* themselves, the most zealous, strict, and precise in their several Religions, are the most esteemed and honoured ; and only in the greater part of the Protestant Churches, the most knowing and resolute retainer, of the truth, and the most strict and godly in their lives, are most hated, nick-named, disgraced, and persecuted : And Grace which should add a lustre to Learning, Riches, Honours, Noble Extraction, and all other outward endowments, whether natural or acquired, that alone obscures all the rest, and brings the contempt, not only of great ones, but even of the scum, and dregs of the multitude upon the persons so qualified.

181. Sir *John Oldcastle*, Lord *Cobham*, in the Reign of our King *Henry the Fifth*,
being

being convented before *Thomas Arundel*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, and diverse other lustful and bloody Bishops, spake thus unto them: *Whilest I was*, said he, *a Swearer, a Rioter, and every way else vicious, you never reprov'd me, nor questioned me: But since I have embraced this despis'd Doctrine of John Wickliff, which hath taught me how to conquer my Sins, and to lead an honest and a godly life, now you are enraged against me with malice, and seek my destruction.*

182. The same observation was made by *Annas du Bourg*, that brave Senator of *Paris Anno Christi 1559.* under King *Henry the Second of France*: That there were many *Adulteries, Perjuries, Oaths, and other infamous offences* dayly committed, and already punishable by the *Laws*, and yet such as were guilty of all, or any of those crimes were countenanced and advanced: But against the Professors of the Truth all cruelty was practis'd, who were guilty of no other offence, but of embracing the truth of the Gospel revealed unto them by the Spirit, and Word of God, and of discovering, by the same Light, the horrible vices, and errors of the *Popish* power that so there might follow an amendment.

183. Experience sufficiently manifests that

that Persecution hath never been a way to suppress the Truth ; and surely its against the Dictates of Charity and Christianity to enforce the conscience without a full and clear conviction. This was confessed by King *Henry the Third of France* (one of the most impotent Princes (saith a learned Gentleman) that ever swayed that Scepter, and the most inveterate Enemy that ever the Protestants had, having been instructed to hate, betray, and persecute them, by *Katherine de Medices*, his bloody Mother, even from his very cradle,) yet when *James Clement*, a *Jesuited Monk*, had sheathed a knife in his Bowels, and that he saw himself near to the Minute in which he was to give an account of all his cruelties to the supreme Judge of Heaven and Earth, he made an effectual speech to the chief Commanders of his Army, being most of them *Papists* : wherein he exhorted them to acknowledge and obey the King of *Navar* (then a Protestant) as their lawful Sovereign, and the undoubted Heir of the *French Crown* : and to know this undoubted truth for the future : *That Religion which is instilled into the Souls of men by God himself, cannot be forced by man.*

184. The same Truth also, and almost
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in the same words did the Lord *Brederode*, and the other Protestants in the *Low-Countries* alledge for their just excuse in their joint *Apology*, published in the year 1566, and farther added: That if the *Papists* did conceive their Religion to be the Truth, they should instead of Blood, Fines, Imprisonings, and Banishments, take the good, and seasonable counsel of the Learned *Gamaliel*, and try a while, whether the Protestants separation from them, were of God or no. For otherwise, if by force, and tyranny they should compel them to profess and practice those actions in Gods Worship, which they accounted abominable; and should also restrain them from the practice of those Duties towards God, wherein they were convinced the truth of his Service consisted, their Consciences must needs be shipwrack'd and undone, and so instead of making them new Converts, they should leave them *Atheists* and *Libertines*.

A Table



A

TABLE

OF THE
NAMES

OF THE

PERSECUTORS,

Visibly Plagued by God.

	pag.
S <i>Atan</i>	1
<i>Cain</i>	2
<i>Old World</i>	2
<i>Ham</i>	3
<i>Ishmael</i>	3
<i>Pharaoh</i>	4
<i>Saul</i>	5
<i>Asa</i>	6
<i>Jesabel</i>	7
<i>I</i>	<i>Manasse</i>

The Table.

	pag.	
<i>Manasse</i>	7	Lic
<i>Jewes, and Pashur</i>	8	An
<i>False Prophets, &c,</i>	8	Ma
<i>Zedekiah, and his Princes</i>	9	Ju
<i>Johanan, and his Companions.</i>	9	Ar
<i>Haman</i>	10	Con
<i>Antiochus the Vile</i>	11	Ge
<i>Herod the Great</i>	12	Val
<i>Herod the less, or Antipas</i>	15	Con
<i>Herod Agrippa</i>	16	Ger
<i>Jewes</i>	17	Hu
<i>Nero</i>	21	An
<i>Domitian</i>	21	Ar
<i>Adrian</i>	22	Ib
<i>Marcus Antonius Verus</i>	23	Ar
<i>Commodus</i>	23	UL
<i>Severus</i>	23	Pop
<i>Claudius Herminianus</i>	24	Pop
<i>Maximianus</i>	24	Dr
<i>Decius</i>	24	Pop
<i>Gallus</i>	25	St
<i>Valerian</i>	25	En
<i>Claudius</i>	26	De
<i>Aurelian</i>	26	La
<i>Dioclesian</i>	26	M
<i>Maximian</i>	27	Sa
<i>Maximinus</i>	ib.	L
<i>Galerius</i>	29	T
		<i>Licinius</i>

The Table.

pag.		pag.
7	Licinius	29
8	Antiochus	ib.
8	Mamuca	ib.
9	Julian Apostata	31
9	Arius	ib.
10	Constantius	34
11	George of Alexandria	35
12	Valence	ib.
15	Constantine	36
16	Genfericus	ib.
17	Hunricus	ib.
21	Anastasius	ib.
22	Arcadius, and Eudoxia	37
22	Theodoricus	ib.
23	Arian Vandals	ib.
23	Vladislaus and his Queen	38
23	Popish Bishops	ib.
24	Popish Lords	39
24	Dr. Austin	40
24	Popish Monks	ib.
25	Stumislaus Znoma	41
25	Emperor Sigismund	ib.
26	Doctor Knapper, and some others	42
26	Ladislaus King of Bohemia	43
26	Minerius	ib.
27	Simon Monfort	44
ib.	Lewis, King of France	ib.
29	Truchetus	ib.
ius		Lord

The Table.

Lord of Reveſt	
Bartholomew Caſſineus	
Johannes de Roma	
John Martin	
Cardinal of Lorain	
Bellemont	
A Judge of Aix	
A chief Judge	
John Cranequin	
Chancellor Prat	
John Morin	
Chancellor Oliver	
Poncher	
Lambert a Friar	
Monbrun	
Villibon with others	
Popiſh Witneſſes	
Popiſh Informers	
Popiſh Inquiſitors	
Emperour Ferdinand the Second	
Sir Thomas Moor	
Biſhop Fiſher	
Philips	
Pavier	
Foxſord	
Rockwood	
An under Maſhal	
Sir Ralph Ellerker	

pag.	Doct
45	Job
ib	Kin
ib	Car
46	Jua
ib	Biſh
ib	Mr.
47	Doct
ib	Com
ib	A
48	Biſh
ib	Doct
ib	The
49	Tr
ib	Doct
50	Bat
51	Mr
ib	The
52	Ge
ib	Wi
ib	Ro
53	Ro
ib	Ju
ib	Ra
ib	Mr
54	Ba
ib	A
ib	D
55	
Doct	

ag.	Doct ^r Story	pag.	55
45	John Twiford	ib.	
ib.	Kings of Spain and Portugal	56	
ib.	Cardinal Woolsey	ib.	
46	Judge Morgan	57	
ib.	Bishop Morgan	ib.	
ib.	Mr. Leyson	ib.	
47	Doct ^r Dunning	ib.	
ib.	Commissary Berry	58	
ib.	A Suffragan of Dover	ib.	
48	Bishop Thornton	ib.	
ib.	Doct ^r Jeffery	ib.	
ib.	Thomas Blaver	ib.	
49	Two Cardinals	59	
ib.	Doct ^r Whittington	60	
50	Bate	ib.	
51	Mr. Woodrofe	61	
ib.	Thomas Mause	ib.	
52	George Rivet	ib.	
ib.	William Swallow	62	
ib.	Robert Baldwin	63	
53	Robert Bloomfield	ib.	
ib.	Justice Leland	64	
ib.	Ralph Lardin	ib.	
ib.	Mr. Swingsfield	ib.	
54	Bayliff Burton	65	
ib.	A Serving man	66	
ib.	Dale, a Promoter	67	
55			
for			

<i>Alexander a Jailor, and his Son</i>	pag. 67
<i>John Peter</i>	68
<i>Lever</i>	ib.
<i>Stepen Gardiner</i>	ib.
<i>King James the Fifth of Scotland.</i>	69
<i>Sir James Hamilton</i>	70
<i>Friar Campbel</i>	72
<i>A Popish Persecutor</i>	73
<i>King Henry the Second of France</i>	ib.
<i>Irish Persecutors</i>	74
<i>Maurice Duke of Saxony</i>	75
<i>Charles the fifth Emperor</i>	76
<i>Philip the Second, King of Spain</i>	77
<i>Rodulph the Second, Emperour</i>	79
<i>Henry the Second, King of France</i>	80
<i>French Persecutors</i>	81
<i>Charles the Ninth, King of France</i>	83
<i>Queen Mother of France</i>	84
<i>French Persecutors</i>	85
<i>Henry the Third, King of France</i>	89, 93
<i>Duke of Guise</i>	90
<i>Cardinal of Guise</i>	91
<i>Queen Mary of England</i>	95
<i>Thomas Arundel</i>	97, 99
<i>Henry the Fourth, King of England</i>	97
<i>James Beaton</i>	100
<i>Escovedo</i>	102
<i>Peter Espinac</i>	103
	Cardinal

g.
7
8
b.
b.
9
0
2
3
b.
4
5
6
7
9
0
1
3
4
5
3
0
1
5
9
7
3
2
3
1

Cardinal Granvoel
Boidon
Puygillard

pag.
103
104
105

ERRATA.

IN the Epistle, page 7. line 16. read they for you.

In the Book, p. 8. l. 29. r. selves for self. p. 12.

l. 10. r. recover for receive. p. 16. l. 25. r. God immediately for Gods immutability. p. 19. l. 14. r. Trajan for Trojan. p. 21. l. 14. r. causing for caused. p.

27. l. 8. r. Thunderclap for Thunder. p. 29. l. 12. r.

miserably for miserable. p. 32 l. 5. r. fully for full. p.

34. l. 29. r. feaver for fear. p. 52. l. 1. r. Charles Con-

nink. p. 7. l. 17. r. that so carnage for carriage. p. 97.

l. 17. *dele* God, p. 104 l. 9. *dele* that. p. 110. l. 12. r.

when for which. p. 111. l. 16. r. Monluc.



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